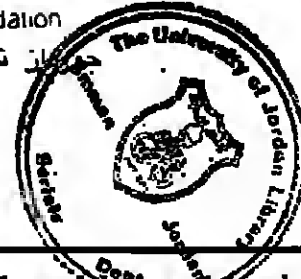


Financial crisis hits AUB

AMMAN (R) — The American University of Beirut (AUB), already hit by an exodus of foreign staff, is appealing for funds to help overcome a financial crisis. AUB's Lebanese co-president, Ibrahim Sali, told reporters and AUB graduates in Amman on Tuesday that the New York-based board of trustees aimed to raise \$36 million in three years from donors in the Middle East, North America and Europe. "This will give AUB the chance to survive and rebuild its tradition of excellence," Dr. Sali said. He said the 121-year-old university, still regarded as among the best in the Middle East, faced a possible \$15 million deficit on this year's budget of \$30 million. Dr. Sali said most foreign teachers had fled AUB because of lack of security in west Beirut, although he indicated that conditions had improved since Syrian troops took control of the western sector last February. "Our main problem is now economic and financial, particularly since the unprecedented deterioration in the local currency and the inflation it has caused," he added. The once-resilient Lebanese pound has fallen to around 160 to the dollar from 18 at the beginning of 1986.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
 جريدة نائمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية والرأي



Iraqis hit tanker at Kharg

BAHRAIN (AP) — Iraqi warplanes fired two Exocet missiles into a Cypriot tanker, the 87,200-tonne Nikos Kazantzakis, late Monday, setting it ablaze, Gulf-based marine salvage executives said. The executives said there was severe damage but no casualties among the mainly Greek and Pakistani crew when the vessel was attacked at anchor off Iran's Kharg Island oil terminal. Iranian firefighting tugboats rushed to help the stricken vessel, said the executives. The executives said they had no immediate confirmation of a second air attack Iraq said it carried out three hours after the Nikos Kazantzakis was hit. The fire was extinguished and the tanker was being towed to Dubai for repairs, they said. The vessel belongs to the Athens-based Greek Trade and Transport Co. The Iraqis also used a French-made Exocet in their May 17 attack on the USS Stark, which killed 37 Americans. Baghdad said the attack was a mistake and Washington accepted the explanation. Iraqi military spokesman in two communiqués broadcast by Baghdad Radio reported that Iraqi warplanes Monday scored "accurate and effective hits on large maritime targets," a phrase the Iraqis often use to refer to tankers they attack.

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Masri heads for U.K.

AMMAN (J.T.) — Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri left for London on Tuesday for talks with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher on the Iran-Iraq war, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, reported. It said Mr. Masri, heading an Arab delegation including representatives of Iraq, Saudi Arabia and Tunisia, would also meet British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe.

Murphy and Polyakov end talks

GENEVA (R) — Senior U.S. and Soviet officials ended talks on Tuesday on prospects for a Middle East peace conference and for settling the Iran-Iraq war, the two superpowers said in a brief joint communiqué. Richard Murphy, U.S. assistant secretary of state, and Vladimir Polyakov, head of the Soviet Foreign Ministry's Middle East section, met privately for most of the day, including lunch at the American diplomatic mission, a U.S. spokesman said. "They discussed issues involving the settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict, the Iran-Iraq war, and other related issues," the joint U.S.-Soviet statement said.

Sikh gunmen stage two bus massacres

CHANDIGARH (AP) — Suspected Sikh terrorists struck for the second time in 24 hours Tuesday, massacring up to 34 Hindu bus passengers in Haryana state after killing 38 Hindu pilgrims earlier on a bus in neighbouring Punjab. The United News of India (UNI) quoted police as saying the 34 passengers were slain Tuesday in an attack on two Haryana roadways buses, apparently travelling together, near Fatehabad, about 250 kilometres southwest of Chandigarh. (See page 8).

Arab banks seek to better training

BAHRAIN (R) — The Union of Arab Banks (UAB) warned Tuesday that banks in the Arab World risked being left "centuries behind" unless priority was given to training staff in modern banking. Chairman Anwar Al Khalil said that without action "Arab banks will face grave and unresolvable challenges in the future as a result of the continuing deficiency in managerial skills, particularly in the face of severe competition and quickly changing services within the banking industry." Mr. Khalil said the UAB planned to set up an institute in Amman early next year.

Petrol tanker crashes, causing many deaths in West Germany

HERBORN (R) — A petrol tanker crashed into an ice cream bar in this West German town Tuesday killing many people as explosions were touched in adjoining houses, police said. A spokesman said the tanker burst into flames and several gas pipes exploded. "We have never before seen so many deaths here," he said. The ice cream bar was flung into the air. "One house after the other exploded because they were linked by the gas pipes," the spokesman said. No details were immediately available.

Lower House elects new Bethlehem deputy

By Salameh B. Ne'matt and Nermeen Murad

AMMAN — The Lower House of Parliament on Tuesday elected Dr. Carlos Dihmis, a prominent surgeon, to fill the seat made vacant by the passing of Deputy Farah Bannoura in January. Dr. Dihmis, 54, secured 33 votes out of 58 votes cast in the first round to win the Bethlehem seat.

The House also passed a law by a majority vote that allowed Jordanians to carry dual nationalities subject to the endorsement of a royal decree. The same law grants the Jordanian citizenship to women married to Jordanians — three years after marriage for Arab women and five years after marriage for non-Arabs. During its second extraordinary session since being recalled by a royal decree last week, the House also passed laws pertaining to oil exploration concessions in the Kingdom, and a law on Public Security and Armed Forces ranks and promotions. Dr. Dihmis, a graduate in medicine from the American University of Beirut in 1956, beat a field of six candidates to win the



Dr. Carlos Dihmis

between 1956 and 1970, pledged after his election to work along with his colleagues in the House towards "the welfare of the country, and, as much as possible, to promote the parliamentary spirit which I strongly believe in." Dr. Dihmis, a former National Consultative Council member (between 1978 and 1983), told the Jordan Times he joined the government in condemning Israeli plans to pump water from the occupied West Bank. The government has instructed Jordan's permanent representative to the United Nations to submit an urgent written protest to U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez

Laws on dual nationality and servicemen approved

de Cuellar, condemning the move as a violation of international conventions. The Israeli defence ministry has approved the water scheme, under which 18 million cubic metres of water will be pumped every year from an area near Bethlehem. Dr. Dihmis, who is one of the founders of the Unionist Democratic bloc, a group of Jordanian political activists who are now seeking licensing from the government as a political party, said the Israeli plan violated the U.N. charter and international conventions stipulating that an occupying force must not evict people from the occupied lands or use their resources or affect any such aspects of their lives. Dr. Dihmis, currently the director of the privately-owned Al Ahli Hospital, said that raising the West Bank water issue during Parliament's current extraordinary session was not possible, as topics on the House agenda during such a session were determined beforehand by a royal decree. He said the issue would have to wait for Parliament's regular session. The law on Public Security and

(Continued on page 2)

Arabs involved in land dispute warn against Israeli police action

TEL AVIV (R) — Hundreds of Arab Druze villagers camping in what is now a nature reserve in northern Israel said Tuesday they would fight any police attempt to evict them from their ancestral land. Twenty-three policemen, two nature reserve rangers and six Druze were injured on Monday in fierce clashes when the Israeli authorities tried to remove the villagers from the encampment in the Mount Meron national park, close to the border with Lebanon. A spokesman for the villagers of Beit Jann told the Israeli news agency Iam: "It should be clear to the police that their entrance to the village will be tantamount to mortal danger. We will not be responsible for the results." Hundreds of Beit Jann residents milled around the encampment of eight tents in the nature reserve on Tuesday to press demands that land be set aside for construction in the village.

Villagers barricaded the entrance and declared they would attack any police force trying to remove the tents or arrest participants in Monday's violence. Sheikh Shafiq Al Assad, head of the local council, told reporters: "We were in a defensive and not offensive situation. We were attacked by the Israeli police." Four Druze border policemen resigned and a fifth was fired for refusing to take part in Monday's action, officials said. Villagers have been on strike for three months to try to pressure the government to release the lands. The Israeli agriculture and energy ministers have been negotiating with Druze leader Sheikh Amin Tarif on the issue. Meanwhile, an Israeli politician has demanded an inquiry

into reports that police burst into a Tel Aviv apartment and severely beat nine Arab hotel workers living there. A spokeswoman for parliamentarian Ram Oshen from the Citizens' Rights Party told Reuters that he filed a complaint with police after the workers told him they were beaten on three occasions without provocation. She said the Arabs, seven of them from the occupied Gaza Strip and two from the Galilee, all had appropriate work papers and were staying in an apartment rented for them by the Tel Aviv hotel that employs them. The Arabs said that border police, some in plain clothes, burst into the apartment, beat them and stole their money. They said the attacks took place on May 4, and were repeated on the following two days.

Walters leaves Syria after 'fruitful' talks

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — Veteran U.S. troubleshooter Vernon Walters left Tuesday after meeting twice with President Hafez Al Assad on Middle East developments and American-Syrian relations, strained eight months ago over allegations Damascus sponsored "terrorism."

A U.S. embassy source, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said: "The meetings with President Assad were friendly, fruitful and extensive." U.S. embassy sources said General Walters, Washington's permanent representative at the United Nations, flew in Sunday on the first ranking U.S. official to visit Damascus since Ambassador William Eagleton was pulled out in November. The sources, quoted by AP, said he held a private meeting with Mr. Assad on Sunday and another in the presence of Foreign Minister Farouq Al Sharaa on Monday. Gen. Walters' presence in the Syrian capital was not reported until Monday. Syrian and U.S. embassy sources would not say what prompted the 24-hour news blackout.

Marjorie Ransom said the American envoy was en route to Frankfurt to catch onward connections to Peking and Tokyo. She told AP in a telephone interview that Gen. Walters flew in "aboard a military plane from a European point where he made a stopover en route from Moscow." Mrs. Ransom denied he had already visited Peking over the weekend, insisting Damascus was the second leg of his tour that began with a trip to Moscow. The United States has had no ambassador in Damascus since last October when Mr. Eagleton was recalled after Britain accused Syria of involvement in an alleged plot to blow up an Israeli airliner flying from London. Damascus denied the charge. But U.S. President Ronald Reagan last November imposed sanctions on Syria, including a ban on high-level contacts between U.S. and Syrian officials. Last month, however, Washington said U.S. officials had seen enough changes in Syria's attitude, including unspecified help in facing "terrorism," to suggest a dialogue might be

Glass says on video he worked for CIA

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Kidnappers on Tuesday released a videotape of kidnapped American journalist Charles Glass. The hostage read from a text saying his "main job" was with the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). "I am Charles Glass. Many of you know me as a journalist, but few know the truth," Mr. Glass said in the videotape delivered to the office in west Beirut of a Western news agency accompanied by a statement from the "Organisation for the Free People's Defence." "I used the press as a cover for my main job with the CIA," said the unshaven Glass. He was shown from the waist up and wore a dark blue track suit. The voice quality was very poor making it difficult to hear exactly what Mr. Glass was saying. "I collect information for the benefit of the CIA. For that I made secret missions, they ordered me to do that," Mr. Glass said. Mr. Glass, looking broken, choked several times while reading the text written on yellow sheets. Mr. Glass mentioned the June

1 assassination of Prime Minister Rashid Karani in a bomb explosion aboard an army helicopter. "I met many Christian leaders... I made Dany Chamoun go to the USA and meet the officials... we also discussed what we should do as to the assassination of Prime Minister Rashid Karani and how we can make another government to go with the coming presidential elections," Mr. Glass said. Dany Chamoun, son of former President Camille Chamoun, is the leader of the right-wing National Liberal Party, which is known for links with Israel. Muslim and leftist leaders have accused Israel and right-wing Christian militias of murdering Mr. Karani in collaboration with a Lebanese army officer. Both the Christian militias and the Lebanese army have denied the charge, however. The younger Chamoun visited the United States in June and held talks with U.S. officials on the situation in Lebanon. The typed statement by the kidnappers said the video tape was to "put forward... some of the results of the preliminary investigations of the American

(Continued on page 2)

Mubarak in Belgrade en route to Geneva

BELGRADE (Agencies) — President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt arrived here Tuesday for a brief official visit to Yugoslavia, his fourth since becoming head of state in 1981. He was met at the airport by Yugoslav President Lazar Mijovic, Premier Branko Mikulic, Foreign Minister Raif Dizdarevic and other Yugoslav officials. Mr. Mubarak was accompanied by Foreign Minister Esmat Abdel Meguid and Foreign Trade Minister Yussri Mustafa. Talks were expected to focus on bilateral ties and on relations within the Non-Aligned Movement, which the two countries helped establish almost 30 years ago. Mr. Mubarak, who was nominated by the Egyptian parliament for a second six-year term as president on Monday, was due to leave on Wednesday for Geneva, where he will take part in the forthcoming session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). Egypt's parliament on Monday overwhelmingly approved the nomination of Mr. Mubarak for a second term. Rules now require a national referendum, which will be conducted in October, to endorse the People's Assembly's choice. Egyptian sources meanwhile

declined to comment on reports that Mr. Mubarak would meet Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres in Geneva to discuss prospects for an international Middle East peace conference. Mr. Peres said Monday the planned meeting Thursday would be part of "continuing contacts with Egypt about developments in the area and progress in the peace process." "I presume the issue (of the international conference) will be discussed," Mr. Peres told Israeli army radio. He added that "no special joint communiqué is expected." Israeli officials said Tuesday that Mr. Peres was also likely to meet U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar in Geneva on Thursday. Reacting to reports in the Hadashot daily that Mr. Peres was also due to meet senior Chinese, Soviet and Yugoslav officials during his one-day stay, the officials told reporters he had no other meetings scheduled. Mr. Peres and Mr. Mubarak last met in Cairo in February and issued a joint statement calling for a peace conference this year. Since then, Mr. Peres has been unable to win backing from Israel's coalition government for the proposal or force early elections on the issue.

France may consider severing ties with Iran

PARIS (Agencies) — France might break diplomatic relations with Iran to force an embassy employee to submit to questioning about last year's deadly bomb wave, Premier Jacques Chirac was quoted as saying Tuesday. "It is obvious that we won't wait a long time and that we will use all necessary means so that justice can be accomplished," Mr. Chirac was quoted as saying in an interview with the newspaper Le Monde. It was the premier's first public comment on the week-long standoff between France and Iran over the fate of Wahid Gerdji, an embassy translator who does not have diplomatic immunity. For a week now, sharpshooters posted on rooftops have trained their sights on the Iranian mission in Paris, where Mr. Gerdji remains inside. Down below, French police check the identities of all those entering and leaving. Authorities say they will continue the stakeout until Mr. Gerdji presents himself to a French judge investigating the five bombings that killed 15 people and injured more than 150 last September. "If Mr. Gerdji refuses to come out, such an attitude would have very serious consequences on the normalisation process and on our relations with Iran," Le Monde quoted Mr. Chirac as saying.

Mr. Chirac ruled out any police operation to capture Mr. Gerdji inside the embassy, an elegant building in Paris's exclusive 16th district. "There are international rules (on embassies) and France will respect these," he told Le Monde. Iran has retaliated to the police stakeout in Paris by surrounding France's embassy in Teheran. A blockade which trapped the 28 staff and family members inside the French mission for five days was eased on Saturday to allow them to come and go. Mr. Chirac said it was up to Iran to act to resolve the crisis and he indicated he would not intervene with French justice authorities to provide any guarantees for Mr. Gerdji's safety. "It is out of the question for Gerdji to avoid testifying before the magistrate, who can draw his conclusions with complete freedom and impartiality," he added. Iran has called for a commitment from the French government that Mr. Gerdji will not be arrested as the price for his emerging from the sanctuary of the embassy. In Teheran, Prime Minister Mir Hussein Mousavi issued a new attack on France and the superpowers, saying Paris was planning to deliver more Super-Etendard warplanes to Iraq (See page 2).

Soviets 'will withdraw warships from Gulf if West does same'

MOSCOW (Agencies) — The Soviet Union will withdraw its warships from the Gulf if the United States, Britain and France lead the way, the Foreign Ministry said Tuesday. "If the United States, Britain and France withdraw their ships, Soviet naval ships would undoubtedly be withdrawn from the Gulf also," ministry spokesman Boris Pyadyshyev told reporters. His comment helped clarify a Soviet call last week for countries outside the Gulf region to withdraw their warships from the w. rway. Moscow said the present naval build-up could spark an international crisis but did not make clear whether the Soviet Union envisaged withdrawing its own forces from the area. Pyadyshyev said that as of last Saturday, the Soviet Union had three minesweepers, a frigate and a communications vessel in the Gulf to protect Soviet merchant ships. "It's a drop in the ocean compared with the armada brought in by the Pentagon," he said. He insisted the United States must withdraw its warships first before the Soviet Union would consider a similar move. White House Chief of Staff Howard Baker said on Sunday that the United States might withdraw its naval forces from the Gulf if there was a ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war and the Soviet Union did the same. Pyadyshyev said that if Mr. Baker's statement meant "a positive attitude to our proposal, we welcome it as a step in the right direction."

U.S. and Soviet ships have been among vessels damaged in the Gulf in the spillover of fighting between Iran and Iraq. Mr. Baker said in an interview with the American Broadcasting Company on Sunday that "if the Soviets will remove theirs, perhaps we'll take a fresh look" at the American naval presence in the Gulf. "But we're certainly not going to cede control of that region to the Soviet Union." American warships meanwhile geared up to escort 11 Kuwaiti tankers in the troubled Gulf. U.S. warplanes have flown a practice mission south of Iran and U.S. navy warships patrolled an Iraqi-declared exclusion zone of military operations in the northern reaches of the Gulf around Kharg, according to sources who spoke to AP in Washington and the Gulf.

Pentagon and State Department officials said U.S. intelligence photographed a Chinese-made Silkwood missile Friday at Kubahest, one of two hardened bunkers the Iranians have built along the strait.

North testifies that he 'assumed' Reagan approved funds diversion

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Sacked White House aide Oliver North testified Tuesday that he assumed — without being told — that President Ronald Reagan had approved diverting profits from secret arms sales to Iran to contra rebels. But in dramatic testimony before congressional committees, Lieutenant-Colonel North said Mr. Reagan eventually told him in a telephone conversation on Nov. 25: "I just didn't know." Col. North also admitted shredding documents after the Iran-contra affair began unravelling when a plane carrying an American mercenary was shot down in Nicaragua in October. The 43-year-old North, wearing his marine officer's dress uniform with six rows of ribbons, ended months of silence under a grant of immunity that prevents his words from being used against him in court. Col. North was the key man in

a series of secret and possibly illegal activities that sent the Reagan administration into a political tailspin when it became public late last year. He said the shredding continued through November, as Justice Department officials began investigating the affair. Asked about five memos he wrote seeking his superior's approval for the clandestine operation, Col. North said candidly: "I think I shredded most of that." Col. North denied any of the memos bore evidence of direct presidential approval for the secret initiative. His testimony before the House of Representatives and Senate Iran-contra investigating committees was carried live by the major U.S. television networks. Starting his long-awaited testimony, a defiant North came down in the president's favour on a crucial question of whether the

president knew about the funds diversion. Col. North said he sought the approval of his superiors for all he did. But as for direct contact with the president, Col. North said, "I never raised it with him, and he never raised it with me during my entire tenure." "Throughout the conduct of my entire tenure I assumed that the president was aware of what I was doing and had, through my superiors, approved it." He said, however, that none of his superiors spoke of direct presidential approval. Col. North also said his boss, Vice-Admiral John Poindexter, who was Mr. Reagan's national security advisor, said the president did not know funds were being channelled to the rebels fighting Nicaragua's government. "I came here to tell you the truth, the good, the bad and the ugly," he said at one point. "I am here to tell it all..."

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Queen, NHF trustees review progress

AMMAN (J.T.) — Her Majesty Queen Noor presided over a meeting of the Noor Al Hussein Foundation's board of trustees Tuesday, during which they reviewed the progress made during the last few months. Queen Noor also reviewed with the board members the progress of work at the projects being sponsored by the NHF. The board also studied projects planned for 1988.

Speaker travels to Damascus for talks

AMMAN (Petra) — Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament and President of the Arab Parliamentary Union (APU) Akel Al Fayed leaves for Damascus Wednesday on a several-day visit to Syria. During the visit, Mr. Fayed will hold talks with Speaker of the Syrian People's Council Mahmoud Al Zu'bi and senior Syrian officials regarding developments in the Arab region and means of bolstering bilateral relations in various fields, including parliamentary.



His Majesty King Hussein, His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan pray at the tomb of King Talal Ibn Abdullah on the occasion of the 15th anniversary of King Talal's death (Petra photos).

Jordan pays tribute to King Talal

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Monday visited the tomb of his father, the late King Talal, who passed away 15 years ago, recited Al Fatiha, the first sura of the Holy Qura'n, and laid a wreath of flowers on the tomb.

family.

The tomb was also visited by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Cabinet members, speakers of the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament and members of the two houses. Chief of the Royal Court Marwan Al Qasem, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid, senior officials from the Royal Court, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker,

Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Fathi Abu Taleb, senior army officers, and commander and senior officers of King Talal Brigade. Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'uf Al Rawabdeh, Chief Islamic Justice Sheikh Mohammad Mheilan and Muslim ulamas, the deputy director of public security, directors of civil defence and general intelligence departments and senior public security, civil defence and general intelligence officers.

ALECSO proposes Jerusalem Liberation Day

TUNIS (Petra) — The Arab League's Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organisation's (ALECSO) Executive Board concluded its 42nd session here and called for Oct. 7 of each year to be designated as "Jerusalem Liberation Day." Director of Ministry of Education's Cultural

Affairs Department Sameh Al Khafsh said on Tuesday. In an interview with the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Mr. Khafsh said that Oct. 7 will be celebrated by the Arab and Muslim nations as a national day, during which speeches will be delivered at schools, universities, community

colleges and all educational and cultural institutions in the Arab World. The board also called on all member states to contribute to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation's (UNESCO) Fellowship Fund.

Royal Decree approves civil servants regulation for 1987

Maternity and sick leaves to be extended

AMMAN (Petra) — A Royal Decree has been issued endorsing the revised comprehensive civil servants regulation for 1987. As part of the new regulation, a number of high-ranking officials will receive salary increases.

The chief Islamic justice, the chief of the accounting bureau, and the president of the Civil Service Commission (CSC) will receive a base salary of JD 600 a month plus a post allowance of JD 500.

Secretary general of the Prime Ministry, presidents of the Jordan Valley Authority, the Water Authority of Jordan and the Legislation Bureau, and the Cabinet's legal advisor will each receive JD 500 per month, in addition to a post allowance of JD 50 and a special allowance amounting to 50 per cent of the base salary.

Under the regulation, governors at the Ministry of Interior, and under secretaries, and the Prime Ministry secretary, will receive a monthly salary of JD 240-300 in addition to an annual increment of JD 10 and a special allowance of 50 per cent of the base salary as well as a post or administration allowance of JD 50.

These salary raises take effect retroactively as of July 1. Speaking on the new comprehensive civil servants regulation,

which has been approved by the Royal Committee for Administrative Development (RCAD), CSC President Ibrahim Izzuddin said Tuesday the regulation will be in force at the beginning of next year, by which time it will have passed required constitutional procedures.

Mr. Izzuddin said the regulation will apply to all public civil servants, whose number totals 100,000, whether they work for ministries, government departments or public institutions.

The regulation is designed to focus on administrative development, and thus has provided for the creation of development and training units in government departments. These units will be in charge of monitoring administrative development, manpower training and improving staff performance.

The new regulation also aims at classifying the civil service into four categories.

The first category includes specialised and leadership posts; the second includes specialised jobs in various professions, the third

includes administrative and clerical posts; the fourth includes non-classified posts and non-pension staff.

Mr. Izzuddin said that staff performance will no longer be confidential; it will be filed by the immediate supervisor in consultation with the staff members concerned.

The regulation will also improve certain types of leaves, including a provision for offering mothers a maternity leave of 60 days and giving them the right to a special leave to care for their children. It also raised the sick leave from 12 months to 14 months.

The new regulation also concentrated on administrative supervision which will assure that staff will be treated fairly.

In answer to a question on the formation of a new civil servants council, known as the CS Bureau, Mr. Izzuddin said the new council will be a standing ministerial committee, headed by the deputy prime minister and grouping ministers of labour and social development, of education, of finance, of higher education and of planning, in addition to the CS Bureau president, the Prime Ministry's legal advisor and a number of high ranking administrators.

Police search for killer

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A police manhunt launched throughout the Kingdom on Monday in search of a lone gunman who murdered a businessman and fled with JD 100,000 continued Tuesday.

The Public Security Department (PSD) intensified the search on the country's border exits for the assailant who was last seen fleeing the crime scene in Jabal Hussein towards the central bus and service station at Abdali. Police patrols have also erected checkpoints in the capital and on highways connecting major cities, a PSD source said Tuesday. The assailant shot and killed Mohieddeen Basheti, 22, after a



Mohieddeen Basheti

fight broke out when the man tried to steal a bag Basheti was carrying containing JD 100,000 in Jordanian and foreign currencies. After shooting Basheti, the man grabbed the bag and fled.

Jerash Festival of Culture and Arts 1987

3-week extravaganza London ballet tops events for opening night

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Sixth Jerash Festival of Culture and Arts opens this evening and one of the highlights for many will be the London City Ballet's performance of the classical ballet "Giselle," to be held at 9:00 p.m. in the South Theatre.

This is the second time the company has visited Jordan, the first time being two years ago when the company performed "Swan Lake" to audiences in the South Theatre. Patronised by Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, the company, under the artistic directorship of Harold King, has recently gone from strength to strength and "Giselle" promises to be an evening that will be greatly enjoyed.

With music by Adolphe Adam, "Giselle," which was first produced in Paris in 1841, is based on a story written by Theophile Gautier, who adapted it from an ancient legend. It is a complex tragedy in which a young peasant girl falls in love with a fellow villager, Loys. Loys, however is not all he seems to be and is in fact a nobleman, Count Albrecht, who is already betrothed to someone else.

A jealous rival reveals Albrecht's duplicity which leads

the distraught Giselle to commit suicide. As she has died betrayed, Giselle joins the world of the "wiliis" — spirits of maidens who in their misery haunt the forest drawing any man who crosses their path in the hours of darkness into a dance that ends in death.

Giselle manages to save her beloved Albrecht from this fate. Because she has overpowered evil with her love her spirit returns to its grave, free. With such

ingredients, "Giselle" is one of the most popular of all romantic ballets.

The London City Ballet was founded by Harold King in 1978, to give lunch hour performances at the Arts Theatre, London. The initial eight dancers have now swollen to a company of 29, the principals being drawn from such prestigious companies as the Royal Ballet, the London Festival Ballet and the Scottish Ballet. The main aim of the company

is to present "a high standard of classical ballet at affordable prices to appeal not only to committed ballet-goers but also to new audiences." The London City Ballet spends much of its time touring and has given performances in the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Finland and Sri Lanka as well as all over Great Britain.

"Giselle" can again be seen on Thursday, July 9, at 9:00 p.m. in the South Theatre.



London City Ballet troupe performing Act II of the ballet "Giselle" (Photo by Frank Higham).

U.S., Jordanian youths join for evening concerts

AMMAN (J.T.) — Forty-five young Jordanian musicians from the National Music Conservatory (NMC) will join 9 members of the U.S. youth orchestra the Young Strings, in a concert this evening at the opening of the Jerash Festival of Culture and Arts, according to a press release by the Noor Al Hussein Foundation.

Less than a year old, the NMC, sponsored by the Noor Al Hussein Foundation, has produced quality music students (aged 6-18), thanks to a special method of instruction which allows remarkably rapid progress by emphasising relaxation and physical activity. The tension-free movements which the children are taught with the violin enables them to produce lovely tones almost from the very beginning.

The violin students of the NMC have been making intensive preparations for their joint-appearance with the Young Strings in Action and will make their debut at the Jerash Festival opening ceremony today. Their public performances will be given at 8 p.m. today and Thursday at the Artemis Steps.

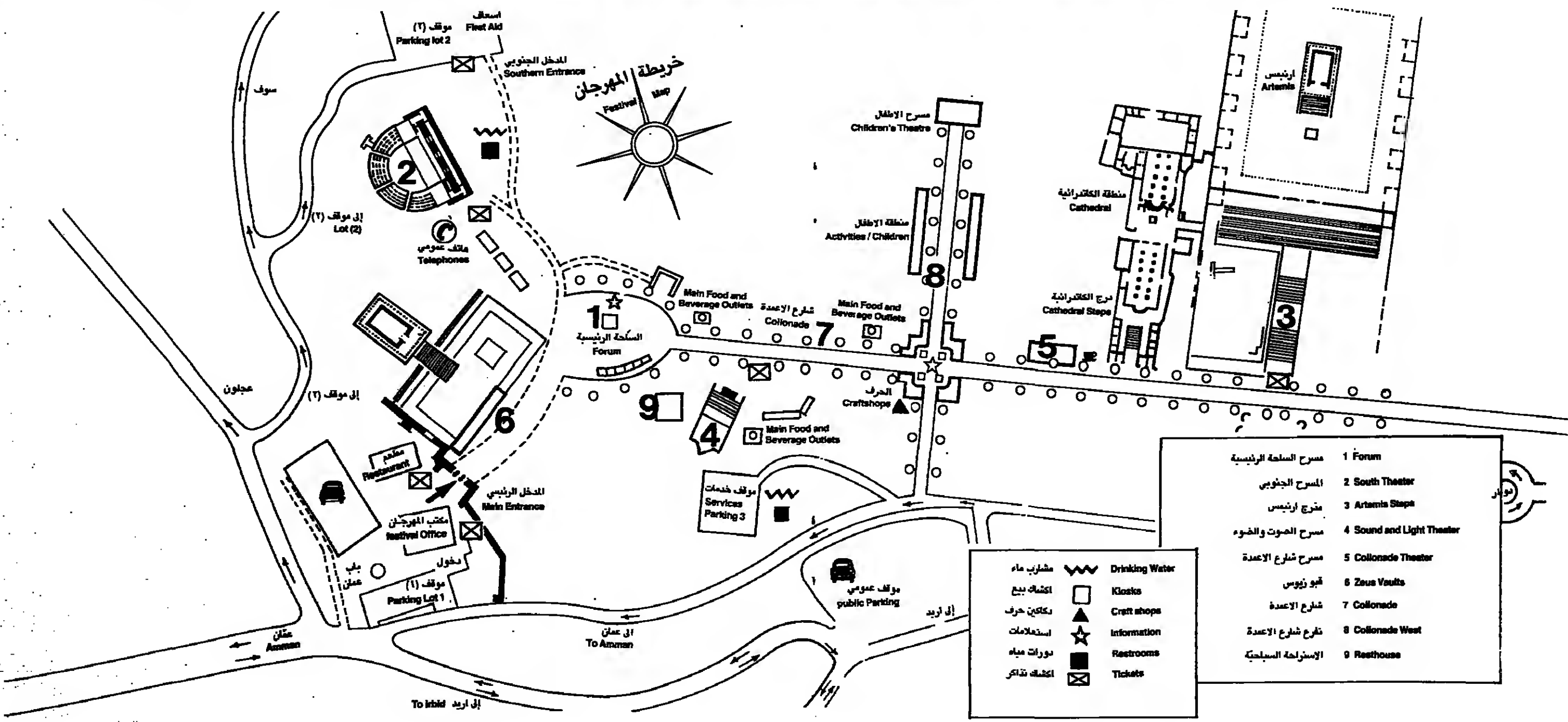
The NMC was inaugurated by Her Majesty Queen Noor in October 1986, with the aim of providing Jordanian children

aged 6-18 with an opportunity to develop their artistic talents.

The conservatory, housed at the Royal Cultural Centre in Amman, began its Violin Programme in October 1986 with three Jordanian instructors and 45 violin students. Today, the programme has 60 students and five teachers and plans to accommodate up to 130 students and ten teachers by the end of 1987.

In September 1987, the conservatory will add viola and cello to its string section and will introduce woodwind and brass instruction. Mrs. Sheila Johnson, the U.S. music instructor who has assisted with the establishment of the Violin Programme makes follow-up visits to the conservatory every three months, to train the Jordanian music teachers and evaluate the students' progress and the instructors' performance.

The idea of the NMC was born in 1984 when, at the invitation of Her Majesty Queen Noor, a group of 15 young American violinists from Washington D.C. aged 8-10 came to Jordan to perform at the Jerash Festival. The Young Strings in Action performed works by Vivaldi and Bach on the steps of the ancient temple of Artemis in Jerash.



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Strong action required

IN THE face of mounting Arab and international opposition to the Israeli decision to pump some 20 million cubic metres of water annually from an area near the Arab city of Bethlehem, Israeli Coordinator of Activities in the Occupied Territories Shmuel Guren said that the Israeli water-drilling project would not be executed "if Arab rights are harmed." As Israel will be the final arbiter of whether Arab rights are infringed, the Jordanian government was right in lodging an urgent complaint to the United Nations, and in having its complaint circulated as an official document of the Security Council and General Assembly.

But as the apparent Israeli master plan to seize most surface and underground fresh water supplies in the West Bank could be just as ominous and far reaching as its "on-hold" plan to pump sea water from the Mediterranean to the Dead Sea in order to generate electricity at the expense of Arab arable lands which would have been flooded in the process, we think that supplementary actions by Jordan and other Arab countries are called for. It will be recalled that it was the forcefulness and sustained Jordanian efforts in and outside the United Nations which forced Israel to suspend its Mediterranean-Dead Sea project.

To be sure, complaints to the U.N. in the form of official documents circulated among the various organs could imply standing alone, "routine-management" of the problem. There is hardly a day that passes without a flood of complaints being lodged with various U.N. organs and circulated as official documents. Member states have now acquired an immune deficiency syndrome with regard to such complaints and documents. We therefore propose that more effective and forceful action commensurate with the gravity of the problem should be taken by Arab governments and the international community with a view to convey the full urgency and seriousness of the latest Israeli encroachment on Arab sovereignty. We do not need to remind ourselves that the Arab World has become numb with mere official complaints and holds them in contempt when they are not coupled with actions.

The first step in this direction would be to erase the impression that the problem of illegally tapping Arab water supplies by Israeli authorities will be "routinely" dealt with by Amman. Direct and urgent contacts with the various capitals of the world with which we enjoy diplomatic relations could be launched to complement our complaint to the U.N. We can send strong and well-documented messages to the other countries with which we have no diplomatic representation. The list of possible actions is indeed long and we are confident that our government will in due course explore all avenues in order to stop the latest Israeli scheme.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: France supports conference

FRENCH Foreign Minister Jean Bernard Raimond, who has just wound up a two-day official visit to Jordan has expressed hope that an international Middle East peace conference would be held in the near future. Mr. Raimond voiced his country's support of the idea of holding such a conference, saying that the European Community shared with his country this stand on holding the conference to solve the Middle East conflict. The French foreign minister stressed the need for the participation of the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council, in addition to the parties to the Middle East conflict, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). Although Mr. Raimond did not say it clearly, he alluded to the Israeli rejection of the conference as an obstacle in the face of the conference. He made it clear that the convening of the conference still is governed by the consent of the Israeli government. With such a semi-complete unanimity on the part of the international community to convene the conference, will the Israeli government and the United States stand change or will they be the same? And if not, is the new opportunity currently available going to be missed?

Al Dustour: The real threat

IN an interview with the Austrian magazine Profil, His Majesty King Hussein stressed the importance of the role that the United States and the Soviet Union can play in the search for a peaceful settlement to the Middle East question. King Hussein said that as long as the two superpowers are interested in reaching an agreement over nuclear disarmament, they must have been interested in finding a solution to the Middle East question, which if continued without solution would be a well-endangering international peace and security. Accordingly, the two superpowers should support the idea of the international peace conference which has gained momentum and which got accepted by the whole world as a peaceful approach for addressing the Middle East conflict. Such a conference will serve as the right forum for reaching at a just, durable and comprehensive solution to the Middle East problem, thus relieving the whole international community from any future threats for international peace and security. However King Hussein did not conceal his dissatisfaction and the severe bitterness he felt, at the U.S. decision to stop arms sales to Jordan and has decided not to ask for any arms from the United States, which has so far failed to honour its declared commitments towards Jordan.

Sawt Al Shuab: No just another complaint

AMIDST the Zionist plans to steal Arab waters and seize water resources in the occupied West Bank, one can not but feel that the Israeli plan is not a difficult one to realise. Within this framework and given the Israeli intransigence and rejection of all protests, Jordan have no alternative but to call for a Security Council session to tackle this issue, and to look into the present and future dangers and threats it poses to Arab citizens living under Israeli occupation. By doing so, Jordan did not mean to add a complaint to the so many complaints lodged at the Security Council, neither did it mean to have the Security Council denounce the Israeli practices, but Jordan meant to ask the international body to embark on an action and to intervene with all possible means to put an end to Israeli practices, which are eventually designed to evacuate the West Bank from its own people through depriving them of their means of livelihood and destroying their agricultural products. The United Nations Security Council is, therefore, asked to take an action and not fail the West Bankers who could no longer stay silent over what is going on in their homeland. They cannot stand against the Israeli arrogance and the robbery of their land and water resources under the eyes of the whole world community.

How to become U.S. president: Bash the Arabs

By Rex B. Wingerter

The writer is a Washington DC attorney and a writer on Middle East affairs. His article is reprinted from the London-based Middle East International.

THE 1988 U.S. elections are more than a year away but the first round of "Arab-bashing" has been heard already with calls from presidential candidates that PLO offices in New York and Washington DC be closed down. The legislation introduced by presidential aspirants Senator Bob Dole (R-Kansas) and Representative Jack Kemp (R-N.Y.) maintains that closing down the offices would be part of the fight against terrorism. Dole entitled his Senate bill the "Anti-Terrorist Act of 1987" while Kemp cloaked his House effort as the "Anti-PLO Terrorism Act of 1987."

But such posturing can not disguise the fact that Arab-bashing wins politicians votes and important campaign contributions. A number of candidates using anti-Arab tactics were witnessed in the 1986 elections. Incumbent Senator Steve Symms (R-Idaho) was linked to international terrorism because he sought to sell Idaho wheat to Libya nine years earlier; a candidate running for the city council of Sacramento, California, was accused of supporting terrorism for speaking at a memorial service for victims of the 1982 massacre at Sabra and Shatila refugee camps. Similarly, the campaign of a black woman running for Congress in Louisiana was said to be

run by the PLO because her campaign manager was an Arab-American.

The Dole and Kemp bills ought also to be seen within the same domestic political framework. Both candidates are aligned with the conservative wing of the Republican Party and presently are competing for support for their presidential bids from that powerful political group. The anti-PLO bill will thus represent a way to show off their tough anti-terrorist credentials. Indeed, Kemp used the bill as an opportunity to criticise Secretary of State George Shultz's reluctance to move against the PLO offices. A few months earlier, Kemp cited right-wing support by calling for Shultz's resignation on the grounds that he was too soft on the Soviet Union.

Arab-bashing wins politicians votes and important campaign contributions.

A more pressing reason for the anti-PLO legislation, however, is its potential value in winning campaign contributions from the American Jewish community. American Jewry collectively donates a significant portion of campaign contributions, particularly to the Democratic Party. Sociologist William Domhoff estimated in 1972 that Jewish contributions to non-Southern Democratic candidates ranged from 40 to 60 per cent of the party's total campaign expenditures. Since 1984, Jewish cam-

paign contributions have been formalised in pro-Israel political action committees (PACs). In the 1986 elections pro-Israel PACs contributed to Democratic candidates over Republican ones by more than a two-to-one margin: \$2.3 million went to Democrats, just over \$1 million to Republicans. Dole received at least \$9,000; Kemp at least \$4,000. Their anti-PLO bills certainly would make them more attractive to pro-Israel PACs and individual Jewish contributors, despite their very conservative voting records on domestic issues.

Co-sponsoring Dole's bills were four well-known pro-Israel senators: Charles Grassley (R-Iowa), who received \$16,500 from pro-Israel PACs in 1986; Rudy Boschwitz (R-Minnesota), former chairman of the Senate foreign relations committee's Middle East subcommittee, who got over \$95,000 in 1984; Frank Lautenberg (D-New Jersey), also on the Senate foreign relations committee's Middle East subcommittee, who received \$28,000 in 1982 and another \$7,000 in 1986; and Howard Metzenbaum (D-Ohio), who accepted \$35,000 from pro-Israel PACs for his 1982 campaign and another \$1,000 in 1986 for his 1988 race. A week after the introduction of Dole's bill, about 30 more senators signed on as co-sponsors.

Another sign of how the candidates may be seeking to ingratiate themselves with the pro-Israel forces are allegations that the legal counsel of the American Jewish Congress drafted Kemp's bill. The

offices of both senators denied this charge but Dole's office admitted that the bill was "run by" the AJC and AIPAC. Both candidates also denied that their bills were intended to rally pro-Israel PAC money to their campaigns.

The two bills cast a wide net over Palestinian activists. The legislation would make it illegal for anyone to aid or abet the PLO, to receive funds from it or to provide services for it. Moreover, the law would include any PLO constituent group or agent or successor group. The Kemp bill makes violation of the law a criminal act with a penalty of a fine and/or a five-year jail term.

Hassan Abdul Rahman, the director of the Palestine Information Office in Washington DC, contends that the bills are a "declaration of war against the Palestinian people." He asserts that the legislation not only denies the legitimacy of the Palestinians' struggle in the occupied West Bank and Gaza but casts all Palestinians in the PLO as terrorists. Abdul Rahman also sees the bills as an attempt by Likud-orientated pro-Israel groups in the U.S. to preempt by law any PLO-Israeli-U.S. dialogue that may emerge from talks about the peace process. He points out that the Dole-Kemp bills would parallel new laws in Israel that prohibit Israeli citizens from contacting official PLO representatives. "But the U.S. anti-PLO laws are even more restrictive than the ones enacted in Israel," he claims. "The Palestine Red Cres-

cent that is permitted to operate in Gaza would be prohibited from operating in the U.S."

Outlawing the Palestinian offices would pose vexing legal problems. The PLO's New York office is in fact part of the United Nations and governed by agreements between that international organisation and the U.S. Closing that office could constitute a breach of those agreements. The office in Washington DC, established in 1978 during the Carter administration, is registered with the U.S. Justice Department as a foreign agent. Justice Department spokespeople have stated that the office has not acted illegally. Likewise, State Department spokespeople have conceded that the office has abided by U.S. laws.

American Jewry collectively donates a significant portion of campaign contributions.

The closure of the offices would also raise some serious free speech, First Amendment issues. All of the employees in the Washington office are either legal residents or American citizens. Shutting down that office for political reasons would deprive them of their right to free speech and association.

Fears that closing down the PLO offices could abridge the First Amendment rights of other American political organisations has galvanised some opposition

to the Dole and Kemp bills. The liberal American Civil Liberties Union has criticised the proposed legislation. A Washington Post editorial blasted the bills, claiming that politically oriented speech "is not and cannot and should not be made a crime," and urged the bills' defeat. Likewise, the New York Times wrote that the legislation would impinge upon free speech. In the mid-West, the Minneapolis Tribune charged the bills were "irrational," "misguided" and indicative of the U.S. government's "ostrich stance" in dealing with the PLO and the Middle East conflict.

Confronted with these free speech issues, it is uncertain whether an anti-PLO bill would be passed by Congress. A spokesperson from Dole's office conceded that First Amendment concerns may kill the bill. Moreover, the Justice and State Departments have been reluctant to support the legislation. This suggests that the bills' future is contingent on the extent to which AIPAC is willing to fight for them. But according to a Jewish organisation source closely connected with the proposed legislation, AIPAC is serious about closing the PLO offices but has not made it a priority issue. Higher on AIPAC's legislative agenda is stopping arms sales to the Arab states. "The PLO offices may not be closed down during this congressional term," admitted one Jewish organisation source, "but it is an extremely important issue for us and one that we will continue to work on until either the Congress or the executive branch shuts down the offices."

Mood of violence gives way to shame in Malta

After violent street disturbances, Malta plans to put its political, economic and social houses in order. Godfrey Grima assesses the new government's position.

VALLETTA — The groundswell of national reconciliation which Malta's new prime minister, Mr. Eddie Fenech Adami, hoped to create following his recent electoral victory has now disintegrated in the violence which has raged through the streets of Valletta.

The disturbances have put the newly-elected Nationalist administration in a quandary. Has the opposition Labour Party of Mr. Carmelo Mifsud Bonnici proved that its writ holds even after being voted out of power? Or was this simply a protest rally which got out of hand?

Whatever the case, for an entire afternoon it appeared as though the government, rather than the police, had been overrun.

For Mr. Fenech Adami, who has now given responsibility for the police force to army commander Col. John Spiteri, the test of strength came before the administration still in its first 100 days, had found its feet. As he spoke of the night's events in a nationwide televised address, Mr. Fenech Adami left a lingering impression that the government lacked the physical strength to defend itself from demonstrators who had patently commandeered the streets of the island's capital city.

Within the Labour camp, too, the feeling is one of embarrassment rather than jubilation. In a statement, the party blamed the government's administrative moves, including the transfer of supporters from one government department to another, for the rising tension.

It was perhaps the relative calm which followed the election which made the sudden outbreak of violence so shocking, but it has served to point up the fact that any party believing it can govern this bitterly divided island without the consent of the other is burying its head in the sand.

The point does not appear lost on the prime minister. "There has been too much discrimination in the past. We don't want to be vindictive with the other party. I myself have given a lead by not seeking retribution. National unity remains an uppermost goal with us but this is a psychological process that takes time," he said only days before the violent events.

The Labour Party, which has yet to find its feet in the opposition after having governed for an uninterrupted 16 years, perhaps read too deeply into Mr. Fenech Adami's initiatives, particularly the speed at which he laid down his foreign and domestic policy markers.

This raised suspicions that the government was flirting with the idea of making substantial shifts from the policies of neutrality. "Any moves which show the West to be gaining an upper hand or the island's powerful Roman Catholic church to be regaining its dominant posture ring alarm bells with the Labour Party."

Since coming to power on May 12, Mr. Fenech Adami has demonstrated his intent to create closer links for Malta with the U.S. and Western Europe. A quintessential European Christian Democrat, he denies that this in any way imperils Malta's neutrality. "I'm not about to sign a defence agreement with the U.S. We're banned by the constitution from joining NATO and we're not prepared to grant berthing facilities to naval fleets. At the same time, I don't think much of the treaty signed by the previous government with the Soviet Union in 1981 either. I don't think it amounts to much," he insists.

He asserts his pro-American policies are directed at wooing an increased flow of U.S. investments and ship-repair work for the island's drydocks. This, he says, was impossible to achieve in the climate which prevailed in past years.

While Western Europe has been asked to guarantee Malta's safety, the church finds the moves from the government's direction highly encouraging.

Privileges rescinded in past years are being returned wholesale. State claims over seized church properties were abandoned by the prime minister.

A lawyer by profession, in a blaze of media coverage, "I am not about to set up a confessional government if that is what you mean," answers Mr. Fenech Adami when asked whether the church is influencing his decisions. The church will be allowed to fulfil its mission without state harassment, but it will also be expected to step up its social commitment and church schools

will still be obliged to provide free education to 18,000 students.

He also discredits suggestions that his government could find itself playing a subservient role to governments in Europe or the U.S. "Our independence is something which will be safeguarded by all our policies."

"The thrust of our foreign policy," asserts Mr. Fenech Adami, "is credibility. I don't want the island to play an international role disproportionate to its size. I don't want to lose friends. I want to make new ones." This position was spelt out clearly, he says, to a visiting Libyan government delegation recently.

A more pressing issue for Mr. Fenech Adami is the island's sluggish economy, for years dogged by stagnant export receipts and ballooning unemployment, reputed to have overshot the 18 per cent mark.

He labours under no illusion that EEC entry will solve these problems. "Negotiating the right conditions is going to take time and as yet we don't have a schedule for filing an application."

Neither does the prime minister have much time for industrialists clamouring for a currency devaluation to spur the export of semi-manufactured goods, currently standing at £M180 million (\$162.6 million) a year. A devaluation of the Maltese pound would worsen Malta's imports bill, now standing at £M347 million, and would induce trade unions to file hefty cost of living rise claims.

"Very probably we shall continue to subsidise the exchange rate for foreign tour operators and certain exporters where we have actually had a devaluation of 25 per cent." British tour operators have bolstered Malta's tourist receipts to a quarter of the island's total foreign exchange earnings and the universal hope is that no fresh outburst of violence will dash Malta's hope of attracting 1 million holidaymakers a year by 1989.

Before too long, the new government must come up with its own economic policies on how to drive the economy forward.

It is a sign of the times that, inside the ornate 16th-century Auberge de Castille, which is the government's headquarters, Mr. Fenech Adami has given up the sumptuous office for a small nearby room which satisfies better his need for privacy. It is here that the strategy for putting Malta's political, economic and social house in order will be planned — Financial Times feature.

Rise in Islamic extremism troubles Turkish government

By Robert Burns
The Associated Press

ISTANBUL, Turkey — Islamic fundamentalism is on the rise in Turkey, quietly and steadily gaining a following that some officials and analysts say could undermine the nation's delicately balanced democracy.

The trend toward more radical religious views in this predominantly Muslim nation has been building for several years, fed in part by the 1979 Iranian revolution led by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

In the past year or so, however, the fundamentalist movement appears to have gained momentum, particularly in Turkey's major cities.

"It's very serious," said Gen. Ceylan Shayan, a former university professor who was jailed for his association with an anti-nuclear group when the military seized power in 1980. Freed in 1983, he recently completed a book on the influence of Islamic extremism in his country.

"For the time being I can't see any political movement or institution that can prevent Islamic fundamentalism from eventually taking over the country," Shayan said in a recent interview in Ankara.

The chief concern is that extremists, by advocating Islamic revival, could create enough social discontent and political instability to block the nation's move toward a full Western-style democracy.

Last January, President Kenan Evren declared that Islamic fundamentalism had grown to a great threat to Turkey. Since then, however, government officials have played down the danger.

Adnan Kahveci, chief adviser to Prime Minister Turgut Ozal, said in a recent interview that the fundamentalists' influence had been exaggerated by the news media.

"It's just that they have more freedom now to voice their opinions," he said. "In Turkey people are religious, but they're not fanatics."

Privately, many officials and foreign diplomats say that the fundamentalists, influenced by Iran, are making inroads in a society that turned away from Islamic law in 1923 to build a republic based on the separation of religion and state.

A large majority of Turks seem

to favour the secular system, however, with Islamic extremists believed to be a tiny fraction of the 52 million people. Tehran's influence is believed limited by the fact most Turkish Muslims are from the Sunni sect, while the Iranians are Shi'ites.

The country is still struggling to fulfill its democratic ambitions, which have been set back by three military coups since 1960. The military justified its most recent takeover, in 1980, partly on grounds that Islamic extremists had gained too much influence.

The National Salvation Party, which advocated returning to Islamic law, was outlawed after the 1980 coup.

Istanbul, Turkey's largest city, is strongly accented by Islam. The traditional call to morning prayer sweeps across the city at dawn, sending thousands of the devout to domed mosques that dominate the skyline.

A visitor can see evidence of the extremists' influence.

In Istanbul, a young man standing in a courtyard of the ancient Blue Mosque sells cassette tapes of lectures by Fetullah Gulen, a Turkish leader of the fundamentalist movement. Both Gulen and tapes or texts of his lectures are banned in Turkey.

In the dusty city of Erzurum in eastern Turkey, bookstores give prominent display to publications about Khomeini and his Islamic revivalist teachings.

In a conservative neighbourhood in Ankara, the capital, illegal pamphlets of extremist interpretations of Islamic traditions are offered to the public. Nearby, the local imam leads a noon prayer session spiced with calls for a return to strict Islamic ways.

In Istanbul, Ankara and smaller cities, some women defy Turkish law by wearing a pefche, or veil that partially covers their faces, which most Turks regard as an ideological symbol of the fundamentalist movement.

The government and the military, which wield an extraordinary amount of influence in Turkey, have made halting moves to block the extremists.

Last January, the government forbade women at the nation's 27 universities from covering their hair in public, as traditional Islam recommends. After a series of student protests against the ban, the government quietly dropped it.

Also in January, Evren, the Turkish president, announced

that 813 young fundamentalists had infiltrated the nation's military academies and would be thrown out.

One source of Turkey's concern about fundamentalism is the revolutionary government of Iran, which has sought to export its Islamic revivalist ideas.

On an official visit to Ankara in mid-June, Iranian Prime Minister Hussein Musavi drew a storm of criticism from opposition politicians and news media by refusing to visit the mausoleum of Kemal Ataturk, the man who changed Turkey into a secular state in the 1920s.

In a sign that at least a portion of Turkey's fundamentalists feel an ideological link to the Iranians, several extremists were arrested during Musavi's visit for defacing Ataturk busts in different parts of the country, according to Hasan Aziz Utkan, a government spokesman.

One government official, who briefed a visiting group of foreign reporters on grounds that he not be identified, said the government is concerned about possible Iranian influences on Turkey's extremists.

He noted that while there were no exact figures, "there are now huge numbers of Iranians" living in Turkey.

The government is wary of openly discussing the fundamentalism issue with foreigners, apparently out of fear that publicity would hurt Turkey's efforts to gain full acceptance in the Western camp.

Turkey is a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation, and wants to strengthen its ties to Western Europe by joining the European Economic Community, or Common Market. The government formally applied for EEC membership in April despite opposition from several members, including Denmark and The Netherlands. They contend Turkey does not qualify because it is not yet a fully democratic nation.

Since returning to civilian rule in 1983, Turkey has gradually lifted martial law, except in four provinces where the military is fighting Kurdish guerrillas. About 100 politicians, including former premiers Suleyman Demirel and Bulent Ecevit, are banned from politics. Some political parties are banned until 1989, although a national referendum is scheduled for September this year on whether the bans should be lifted earlier.

New book gives insider's view of Rainbow Warrior attack

By John Morrison
Reuters

PARIS — The French DGSE secret service, plunged into disgrace by the bungled sinking of the Rainbow Warrior in New Zealand two years ago, originally planned to blow up the Greenpeace protest ship in Amsterdam harbour, according to a new book to be published next week.

"Mission Oxygen", written under a pseudonym, claims to be the first inside story of the attack in Auckland harbour on July 10, 1985, in which a Greenpeace photographer was killed.

More than two months later France finally admitted responsibility. Two DGSE officers were sentenced to 10 years jail in New Zealand for their part in the operation, then freed under a compromise negotiated by the United Nations.

The book's author, who uses the name Patrick du Morne Vert, describes himself as a former DGSE officer who was instructed to prepare a top-secret report on the affair for Prime Minister Laurent Fabius.

His book is a "frogman's eye view" of the operation, written to rehabilitate the reputation of the DGSE's "service action", which

took the blame for the fiasco while the politicians who gave the orders escaped with their careers intact.

"This book is not the fruit of revenge, but a healthy search for the truth," the author says, adding that by closing down the DGSE's underwater combat school in Corsica, France killed off one of its elite military units.

"In five weeks of masquerade, France destroyed a shock weapon created over 20 years," he says.

The book's major revelation is that the attack in Auckland harbour was set up at short notice after an earlier plan to sink the Rainbow Warrior in Amsterdam

fell through when the vessel put to sea.

It describes a reconnaissance mission to the Dutch port in April 1985 by two DGSE agents to spy out ways of sinking the ship before it left for the Pacific to protest against French nuclear tests.

But on the third day of their mission, they saw the ship head out for the open sea.

The book, clearly based on extensive debriefing of those who carried out the operation, confirms earlier reports, never officially acknowledged, that the actual bombing was carried out by a third two-man team of

frogmen.

Written in the style of a spy thriller, the book gives a highly coloured first-person account of how the two men, who flew to New Zealand using the false names Alain Tanel and Jacques Camuriet, placed two bombs under the ship's keel.

After the bombing they stayed on two weeks longer in New Zealand, lying low some of the time in a youth hostel in the resort of Mount Juliet. They flew out to Tahiti on July 26 from Auckland airport without being stopped by New Zealand police.

The book says Defence Minister Charles Hernu sent the order

to sink the Rainbow Warrior to DGSE chief Admiral Pierre Lacoste on March 4, 1985.

It depicts Hernu as saying "Rainbow Warrior" while silently pointing his thumb to the ground, as if to disguise his intentions from hidden microphones.

Hernu was forced to resign in September 1985, when France admitted responsibility, but has always denied that he ordered the ship to be sunk. He has continued his political career as a Socialist member of parliament.

Lacoste, dismissed at the same time as Hernu, has been given a new job as head of a Defence Studies Institute.

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Royal Jordanian refurbishes image, goes private this year

By Rami G. Khouri
Special to the Jordan Times

THE 23-year-old state-owned Jordanian air carrier started this year with a new name — Royal Jordanian, replacing Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline — along with a sleeker new livery and corporate image, developed by London, the American corporate design specialists.

London also developed British Airways' new corporate identity and livery several years ago, and the discerning observer will note some subtle underlying similarities in the new design look of the two companies: A prominent royal crown on the aircraft tail, strong horizontal lines, and conservative, almost banker-like colours that should be associated in the public's mind with seriousness and efficiency.

The British Airways parallel is one that Royal Jordanian would certainly not mind seeing carried through far beyond the graphic design sphere — for during the past several years, British Airways simultaneously has become a private sector company, significantly increased profits, repositioned itself among the handful of standard-setting global airlines, and firmly established its reputation for quality service and reliability among demanding business travellers.

With its new look, Royal Jordanian has served notice that it seeks to carve out for itself a new niche in the international aviation market. It has signalled its intent to emerge from the pack of Third World airlines and, as a more efficient privately-owned company, to compete aggressively for international business and tourist travellers.

This may appear to be audacious and over-ambitious for the carrier of a small country at the heart of a notoriously turbulent region, where business and tourism travel are highly susceptible to short term political,

economic and security disruptions. But Royal Jordanian's bid to move into the league of respected and reliable international airlines catering to the tough demands of the business traveller is very much in keeping with its history of countering its inherent constraints by innovation and aggressive expansion.

To make the corporate restructuring complete, the airline this year is also planning to launch the first stage of its privatisation drive, by which it will sell a majority of its shares to private sector investors in Jordan, the Arab World and abroad. The privatisation move will include a deal whereby RJ will sell its

To make the corporate restructuring complete, the airline this year is also planning to launch the first stage of its privatisation drive, by which it will sell a majority of its shares to private sector investors in Jordan, the Arab World and abroad. The privatisation move will include a deal whereby RJ will sell its aircraft to an aircraft leasing company, and lease them all back, thereby significantly reducing its equity, its debts and its annual financing payments.

Since its establishment with a single airplane in 1964 by an enterprising Lebanese engineer named Ali Ghandour, upon the

directives of the aviation-minded King Hussein, Royal Jordanian has grown on the basis of far-driven market stimulation, niche exploitation, and Jordan's pivotal location as a strategically located Middle Eastern hub for business and tourist travellers.

It started this year with a relatively young fleet of 19 aircraft (Boeing 707s, 727s, and 747s, Lockheed L-1011 Tristars and Airbus A-310s), serving 42 foreign destinations. Last year it carried 1.131 million passengers, down from 1.29 million in 1985, due to a dip in tourist and business travel in the Middle East. Its average load factor dropped last year from 57.7 per cent to 51.7 per cent. Cargo carried increased slightly from 40,620 tons to 42,573 tons.

Mr. Ghandour, still chairman and chief executive officer, noted in a recent interview with the Jordan Times that the airline's livery and name change were designed to reflect a deeper change in its business strategy and in the market niche it seeks to consolidate — as a high quality, service-oriented carrier catering to the needs of the business traveller flying to, or through, the Middle East.

"We've always sold our geography," he said, referring to RJ's penchant to combine competitive pricing with convenient, one-stop connections at Amman's modern and very efficient Queen Alia International Airport. It has used this double appeal to carry passengers from North America and Europe via Jordan to other points in the Middle East, the Gulf or south-east Asia.

Royal Jordanian will continue to implement a two-pronged strategy of wooing the demanding business traveller with better service and convenient connections, while filling up the back of the plane with tourists, students and transit passengers attracted primarily by price appeal.

The new strategy will take two-to-three years to be phased in completely, as at least six and perhaps up to 12 Airbus A310 and A320 aircraft join RJ's Lockheed Tristars and Boeing 747s, with the Boeing 707s and 727s being phased out by the mid-1990s.

The heart of the new strategy is to appeal to the "changing needs and higher expectations of the increasingly discerning international traveller," Mr. Ghandour notes. The airline is restructuring internal management to achieve a wide range of rigorous new goals and standards. These include an on-time performance of at least 85 per cent, significantly enhanced service for business and first class passengers, improved facilities for transferring passengers at Queen Alia International Airport (such as free refreshments, meals or hotel stays), and upgraded economy class services.

The business and first class traveller will be offered a range of special new facilities and services, including revamped check-in counters, limousine service within 45 miles of airports for first class passengers, private lounges, VIP clubs, a frequent flier programme, express baggage handling using separate containers, better meals and seats, sleepers and sleeping bunks, hot or perfumed towels, in-cabin video systems that chart the aircraft's progress along its route, no-smoking quiet lounges for first class passengers in the upper decks of Boeing 747s, one cabin attendant for every 25 passengers, and more personalised service for first class passengers.

New cabin crew recruits will be sought with experience in related services, such as hotels, nursing and secretarial work. After graduating from the basic training course, cabin crew attendants will serve at least two months on the ground to learn about the airline's ground operations, at the airport, at sales offices and in the flight kitchen.

"We'll need about two years to complete the personnel training, and to install the new corporate culture and identity throughout our entire staff," Mr. Ghandour said, recognising that one of the airline's weaknesses in the past had been the inconsistent quality of its staff.

"We're not just changing colours, we're implementing a whole new strategy and image based on quality service, and we have to teach our people how to do it through a long-term, continuous training and re-training programme," he said. "It will take us almost two years to repaint all our planes in the new colours and redo the interiors. It should take about two to three years for the new corporate identity to spread vertically and horizontally throughout the entire airline."

Airline industry observers in Amman are watching Royal Jordanian carefully to see if its performance can match its promise. Frequent air travellers in Jordan are mindful that during its brisk growth era in the late 1970s and early 1980s, RJ's ground and on-board service standards were highly erratic, swinging widely between excellent and mediocre. This clearly reflected the absence of a corporate culture that permeated all staff members, due to insufficient management depth, fluctuating quality controls, the inherent hazards of brisk growth, and the need to recruit many foreign cabin crew and integrate them with Jordanian staff.

Not only was the airline itself expanding rapidly during the past decade, but it also spawned a



Ali Ghandour

'We're not just changing colours, we're implementing a whole new strategy and image based on quality service, and we have to teach our people how to do it through a long-term, continuous training and re-training programme. It will take us almost two years to repaint all our planes in the new colours and redo the interiors. It should take about two to three years for the new corporate identity to spread vertically and horizontally throughout the entire airline.'

series of wholly- or partly-owned subsidiaries, now under the umbrella of the parent holding company which will continue to be named Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline. These now include a travel agency, an airport hotel, the Amman duty-free shops, an aviation training centre with simulators, an aircraft maintenance facility, an air cargo company, an air taxi charter service, an air acrobatics team, a boutique, minority holdings in several hotels and land transport companies, an airline consultancy firm, and a 20 per cent stake in Sierra Leone Airline.

Many of the company's subsidiaries, such as Arab Wings and Arab Air Cargo, were conceived as pan-Arab companies jointly owned by other Arab interests, but in most cases have remained bilateral projects with only one other Arab country. A promising new venture launched earlier this year is the joint arrangement by which RJ wet-leases a Tristar aircraft with crew and maintenance backup to Sudan Airways to operate on the lucrative Khartoum-Cairo-London route, with the two companies sharing the profits.

Under the corporate reorganisation plan now underway, the holding company Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline will own the airline and all the subsidiaries, while the airline itself will be spun off and privatised under the new name of Royal Jordanian.

After sustained growth that averaged over 22 per cent a year during the past decade, with only three unprofitable years in the past 14, expansion will be minimised during the next two years in favour of consolidating RJ's existing network. Only Montreal, Delhi and Calcutta will be added this year to a network which stretches from Los Angeles and Chicago in the west to Singapore, Bangkok and Kuala Lumpur in the east.

The airline made a profit of JD 1.8 million in 1985 (thanks largely to the sale of two planes), on a total of 1.131 million passengers carried and 42,573 tons of cargo. Its 1986 accounts, due this month, will show it just about breaking even or making a slight loss.

While Royal Jordanian's fleet and business plan are being revamped, so will its balance sheet and equity structure. Now totally government-owned, Royal Jordanian plans to sell its shares gradually to private investors over the next several years. To strengthen its capital base (it has assets of over \$680 million but a high debt to capital ratio of over 8:1), RJ will soon agree with one of several companies it is negotiating with to sell and then lease back its eight Lockheed Tristars and three Boeing 727s (though not, for the moment, its two Boeing 747 Jumbo Jets).

This will wipe out its \$300 million of outstanding debt and give it a comfortable cushion of working capital for at least two years; selling and leasing-back its planes will significantly ease cash-flow pressures, as annual lease payments of \$50-\$55 million will be less than half the \$120 million it now pays annually in loan interest, principal and bank charges.

A U.S. AID-financed preliminary feasibility study of its privatisation prospects concluded earlier this year that the airline is "a prime candidate" to go private. By the end of this year, it plans to sell 30 per cent of its shares to the Jordanian public and 10 per cent to its employees, probably with a 7 per cent guaranteed annual dividend for a certain number of years. Next year, another 20-30 per cent of the shares will be sold to Jordanian and other Arab investors, with the government expected to maintain 10-15 per cent and the balance being offered to international investors.

Spurred by intense competition from the 22 international carriers that fly into Amman, including most quality European airlines, RJ is expected to continue developing the several market niches that have served it well: a hub-and-spoke network offering businessmen and vacationers convenient connections to most Middle Eastern capitals and destinations in North America, East and West Europe and Asia. It will also keep attracting ethnic Arab traffic abroad, expatriate Jordanians and Palestinians, and foreign tourists seeking Holy Land destinations east or west of the Jordan River.

Global airline industry deregulation and its own privatisation mean RJ must become a leaner and more efficient carrier if it hopes to live up to its new corporate image and its self-styled business goals. Greater efficiency and marketing sophistication are also seen to be vital to offset the constraints of a small home market, a relatively overstaffed workforce and high costs resulting from a widespread route system with limited frequencies, and its own small size compared to its international competitors.

In an increasingly competitive global environment, which will become even more liberalised in the wake of current steps by the European Community to loosen air industry regulations, prod competition and lower prices for consumers, Royal Jordanian will have to show that it can achieve its new goals in service standards while holding down costs and increasing staff efficiency and productivity.



Initial surgery to save Nefertari's tomb successful

By Jeffrey Bartholet
Reuters

VALLEY OF THE QUEENS, Egypt — The sky is collapsing, but scientists at the tomb of Queen Nefertari on the west Bank of the Nile have stopped the stars from falling.

Five-pointed yellow stars in a blue-and-black sky are one of the painted scenes in the critically damaged tomb of the queen, favoured wife of Pharaoh Ramses the Great.

An international team of scientists, archaeologists, Egyptologists and restorers assembled by the Egyptian Antiquities Organisation (EAO) and the Getty Conservation Institute (GCI) of Los Angeles, has temporarily saved the 3,200-year-old murals.

"In the world of historical conservation, the tomb of Nefertari is right there with the Sistine Chapel," said project coordinator Miguel Angel Corzo.

Restorers led by Paolo Mora, former chief conservator of the Instituto Centrale del Restauro in Rome, painstakingly glued about 10,000 bandages to the buckling walls and ceiling of the tomb to ensure they stay in place until further work can be done.

Extensive research, including satellite photographs, was conducted by the team to prepare for a multi-phased restoration programme they hope will start in October.

EAO chairman Ahmed Kadyr told reporters last weekend that "Nefertari is on its way to being salvaged after 40 years of worry... after 40 years of unchecked deterioration."

The tomb, discovered in 1904 but closed to the public since World War II, is one of the most exquisite in the Nile valley. It was the final resting place for one of the queens of Pharaoh Ramses II, also known as Ramses the Great.

Nefertari was the favoured wife of a living god who had at least 13 queens and a plentiful harem. Together, the women bore Ramses II more than 100 children.

A visitor to the seven chambers of her tomb is overwhelmed by the rich colours of the murals. Fingerprints of the painters are still visible in places. Paintings covering 483 square

metres include depictions of the queen making offerings to the gods in the form of a hawk, jackal, scarab beetle, cow and other guises.

The tomb, about 10 metres deep, is located in a valley scoured by hot winds opposite Luxor.

It is difficult to understand how, in such an environment, the tomb was ravaged by moisture which activated salt crystals in the rock.

Egyptian and foreign experts now believe water used to plaster the tomb created the crystals and bubbles of salt that have blistered the paint.

In the next phase of the project, restorers using surgical gloves, gauze and syringes loaded with adhesive plan to remove the salt and glue the plaster to the rock.

But first, the EAO must give permission to proceed beyond the "emergency consolidation" just completed. The first phase cost the GCI, an arm of the J. Paul Getty Trust, more than \$200,000.

Participants in the project say the stakes are dangerously high in a restoration job that is so complex, and in a tomb so important. "This is when hands start to shake," said Gaballa Ali Gaballa, an Egyptologist and strong supporter of the scheme.

A decision on how to proceed will depend on results of current research and tests made by Mora and his team in the tomb.

The work of previous, well-intentioned restorers of the past century has damaged the tomb, and is a reminder that mistakes can be made.

If the restoration proceeds well, the chambers could be open to limited numbers of tourists within two years, Kadyr said.

While the tomb is not the most important monument of ancient Egypt, it may be the one that inspires the strongest emotions among Egyptians.

"When you ask an Arab woman, 'what child is closest to your heart?' she will say 'the young until he grows old, the absent until he comes home and the sick until he is healthy,'" Gaballa said.

He added: "(Nefertari) is sick and so she is closest to our hearts."



With its new look, Royal Jordanian has served notice that it seeks to carve out for itself a new niche in the international aviation market. It has signalled its intent to emerge from the pack of Third World

airlines and, as a more efficient privately-owned company, to compete aggressively for international business and tourist travellers.

A legal gale blows in the Windy City

In Chicago, they don't do things by halves — including issuing writs and suing. David Owen reports on a controversy close to the heart of the Windy City.

CHICAGO — "In Chicago, we take our architecture seriously," according to Mr. Walter Netsch, one-time eminence grise of Skidmore, Owings and Merrill, the large architects' firm and designer of the controversial U.S. Air Force Academy chapel in Colorado Springs.

With good reason. The civic honours list includes such luminaries as Louis Sullivan, father of the skyscraper, Daniel "make-no-mistake-plans" Burnham, Ludwig Miss van der Rohe and Frank Lloyd Wright, most celebrated member of the so-called Prairie School and designer in 1956 of what would have been the world's first one-mile-high building, complete with atomic-powered elevators.

Even without Lloyd Wright's projected leviathan, which perhaps thankfully never progressed beyond the drawing board, the city's peerless 20th-century architectural heritage allows Chicago tourist guides positively to wallow in superlatives.

In addition to the Sears Tower — at 1,454 feet, still the Mount Everest of manmade structures — the Windy City can, and frequently does, boast the world's

tallest marble-clad building, the world's tallest masonry-supported building, the world's largest building entirely occupied by a bank, the world's largest fountain and the world's largest indoor salt-water fish tank.

In Chicago, even the prison — the Campbell Court House annex metropolitan correctional centre, as it is more properly titled — is an architectural piece de resistance. A parking garage on Lake Street parodies the front view of a Rolls-Royce.

In such circumstances, the best known contemporary architects are unequivocally star material. Their names frequently embellish the city's most exclusive guest lists and its less-read gossip columns. The more so since, as Mr. Netsch confides: "The architectural profession is probably as hostile to one another behind backs as any group I am aware of."

No name is a bigger draw than that of Mr. Helmut Jahn, an athletic 47-year-old native of West Germany, whose distinctive work is increasingly in evidence throughout the city, from the intriguing O'Hare airport underground station to the airy Chicago Board of Trade annex.

All of which makes the controversy surrounding Mr. Jahn's futuristic \$173 million State of Illinois Centre a very big story in Chicago.

Like it or hate it — and veteran Illinois Governor Mr. James "Big Jim" Thompson is arguably its biggest fan — Mr. Jahn's design certainly scores full marks for originality. Fronted by the whimsical "monument with standing beast" by French sculptor Jean Dubuffet, the cavernous 17-storey building perches on Randolph Street within a stone's throw of the Chicago Greyhound bus depot, looking for all the world like a stray spaceship.

Unfortunately, as the 3,000 employees staffing the 50 or so state agencies located in the building have discovered to their discomfort, the air-conditioning and heating systems leave a great deal to be desired.

This has finally resulted in writs, with Illinois attorney-general, Mr. Neil Hartigan, suing 13 companies, including Murphy Jahn Associates — in which Mr. Jahn is partner — for a total of \$20 million.

In the summer of 1985, according to the lawsuit, temperatures in the building, which were supposed to be kept no higher than 78 degrees F by a process incorporating giant refrigeration units,

designed to produce 800,000 lb of ice nightly, occasionally topped 110 degrees. Last summer, despite repairs, temperatures again exceeded 100 degrees. In the intervening winter, meanwhile, employees were driven to supply their own heaters and gloves to fight the cold.

Now, in a bid to escape blame and liability for the problems, Murphy Jahn is suing its partner in the design of the building, Lester B Knight and Associates. The suit contends that Knight and Associates acknowledged that it was "solely responsible" for designing the centre's air-conditioning and heating and should therefore pay any damages resulting from Mr. Hartigan's action.

Irksome as the prospect of impending court action may be, Mr. Jahn and the Murphy Jahn company are not exactly letting the grass grow under their feet in the meantime.

The firm is at work on a staggering list of projects around the world, including the One Liberty Place skyscraper in Philadelphia, a towering convention centre in Frankfurt which is destined to be Europe's tallest building, an office/recreation complex in Johannesburg and a daunting clutch of towers and office buildings in New York — Financial Times Feature.

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Italian cyclist dominates Tour de France 7th leg

Switzerland's Maechler keeps the overall lead

TROYES, France (AP) — Italian Guido Bontempi sprinted home Tuesday to win the seventh stage of the Tour de France in a time of five hours, eight minutes, 17 seconds, while Switzerland's Erich Maechler kept the overall lead.

The pack of cyclists finished the 211-kilometre stage from Epinal to Troyes together, leaving the overall classifications practically unchanged.

In the first sprint finish of this 74th Tour de France, Bontempi of the Carrera Team outpaced Spaniard Manuel Jorge Dominguez, who placed second, and Dutchman Jean-Paul van Poppel, who was third.

Earlier in the stage, France's Regis Clerc made a long solitary breakaway but was caught by the pack after 172 kilometres.

Just five kilometres from the end, Stephen Roche of Ireland attacked with three other riders. They still had a lead of 200 metres with two kilometres left to go, but were swallowed up by the main group in the final sprint for the finish line.

Erich Maechler of Carrera, who won Milan-San Remo race earlier in the year, retained the yellow jersey, thirty six seconds ahead of Frenchman Christophe Lavainne, who won Monday's stage from Strasbourg to Epinal.

Tour favourite Stephen Roche, also of the Carrera Team, remains five minutes, 41 seconds behind. American Andy Hampsten, who won the Tour of Switzerland, is seven minutes, 22 seconds off the pace.

Wednesday's stage between Troyes and Epinal-Sous-Senart, also flat, leaving little room for major changes in the standings. The first vital stage comes Friday in an 87-kilometre time trial.

Algerian athletes make impressive start at home

ALGIERS (R) — Hosts Algeria made a flying start on the first day of the fifth Arab Athletics Championships, reeling off seven medals in the six finals contested Monday night.

But it was Kuwait's Ghanim Gohar who provided the evening's major upset when he pipped Algeria's Ahmad Mahour Pasha for a gold in the men's javelin with a last-gasp effort that narrowly accounted for the classy Algerian.

There was some compensation, however, of Mahour Pasha's surprise defeat when his compatriot Isha Dahmouh re-wrote the script for the women's discus which should have provided a happy ending for Morocco's Zobeida Laouioui, two-time African champion.

Dahmouh convincingly beat the veteran Moroccan with a throw

of 51.20 metres and a third north African, Tunisia's Nabila Al-Moulhi, came third.

Dahmouh, avenging a two-year defeat by Laouioui in the African championships, was all smiles after her triumph and went into seemingly endless huddles with teammates after medal ceremony.

In the men's shot put, interrupted mid way through due to rain, Egypt's Mohammad Ashoush and Ahmad Shatta made it one-two for their country but with modest best efforts of 17.99 and 17.79 metres respectively.

Kuwait's Mohammad Zinkawi finished third to take the Gulf state's medal haul to two on the first day.

In the men's 10,000 metres, Algeria's Galal Miloud stayed with the pack until half way through the race when he led with

Tunisia's Abdulrazzak Al-Abtari. Miloud parted company with the Tunisian after they took the bell and surged ahead, opening a yawning gap he maintained until he crossed the line in 30.37.12 minutes.

In a women's 400 metres-final, Morocco's Olympic gold medalist Nawal Al-Moutawakil had no trouble reducing the rest of the field to also-rans to clock 55.98 seconds, nearly two seconds ahead of Algeria's Hassiba Hiloulou who came in second.

The 400 metres hurdles specialist has clearly in a class of her own. She looked twice over her shoulders in the final straight and crossed the finish line virtually jogging.

Iraq's Donia Saadoun won the other 400 metres semi-final in a slow time of 57.50 seconds.

India-Israel tennis tie said to signal new era

NEW DELHI (R) — A Davis Cup tennis tie between India and Israel this month signals an Indian attempt to separate politics from sport, but it has raised fears in Arab countries of a shift in foreign policy, Indian diplomats said.

Arab countries have already protested against the tie which will take place at the Dita Tennis Complex here for three days from July 24.

Maharaj Kumar Rasgotra, India's former foreign secretary, told Reuters the decision to play the tie was a bid by the government to take Indian politics out of the sporting arena, except where ties with South Africa were concerned.

India pulled out of the 1974 Davis Cup final rather than play South Africa and last year joined a 32-nation boycott of the Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh to protest against Britain's resistance to economic sanctions against South Africa.

Although India barred Israel from taking part in the world table tennis championships in New Delhi earlier this year, the Davis Cup tie now looks certain to go ahead.

"It is a good thing to keep politics out of sport and that is what has happened in this tennis match," Rasgotra said.

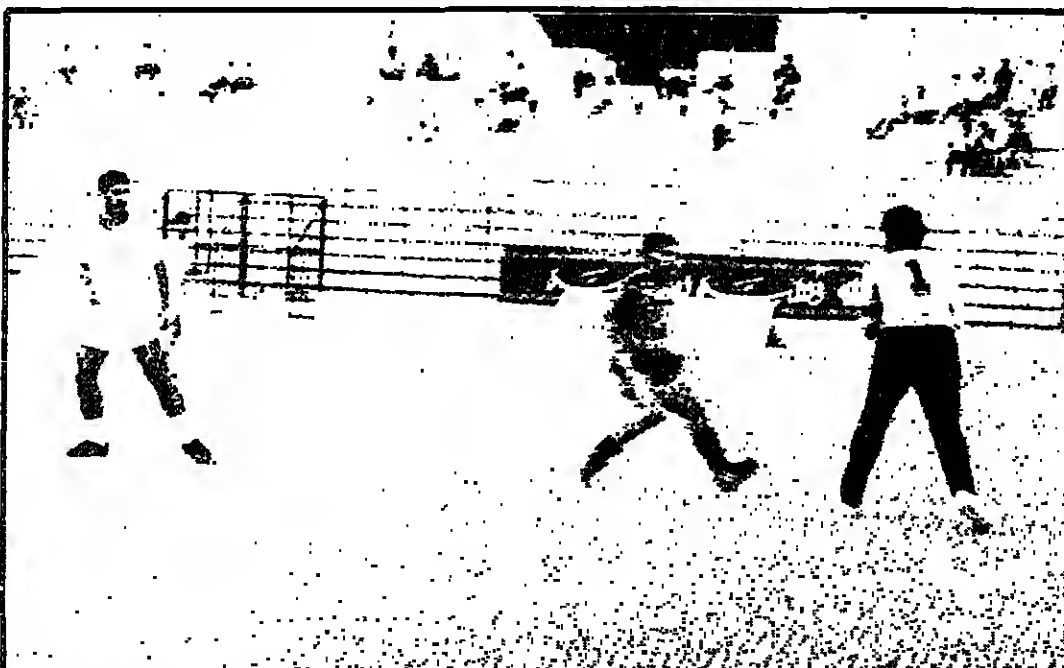
SPORTS IN BRIEF

Schoolgirls to make soccer history

WEMBLEY, England (AP) — A team of American schoolgirls will make soccer history next week when Wembley Stadium stages its first all-girl match after 64 years of male domination. The Cincinnati Cardinals under-14 team meets English side Millwall Lionesses July 16 to kick off the fourth annual London International Football (soccer) Festival, organisers said Tuesday. Wembley, which staged the 1966 World Cup final and hosts the national team's games as well as the annual English F.A. (Football Association) Cup final, is known as the home of English soccer. Only women's field hockey teams have been allowed to break the male monopoly since the stadium was built in 1923. Some 2,000 young players are due to take part in the festival, including teams from California, Washington State and Oklahoma, Denmark, Sweden, Taiwan and Portugal.

3rd English club bans away fans

TORQUAY, England (AP) — Fourth Division Torquay United Tuesday became the third English soccer club to ban away supporters from its ground, and also initiated a code of conduct for its players. In line with First Division Luton Town and Colchester United, which was promoted to division three last term, Torquay has imposed the ban in a bid to combat crowd violence. But the club from this south English coastal resort also has pledged to fine players who misbehave on the field. "Obscene language by the players will not be tolerated," club secretary David Turner said. "With youngsters in the crowd, we are keen that players don't set a bad example. We are seeking to make soccer a family sport once more," he said.



HIDE AND SEEK: Al Tuesday in the Premier Division Cup Arabi goalie Riyadh Talafha catches the ball before Amman Club player Adnan Shamawi takes advantage in a match held between the two teams

Largest ever University Games kick off today

ZAGREB, Yugoslavia (AP) — With more than 7,000 athletes from 127 countries, the largest summer world University Games ever will officially start Wednesday with opening ceremonies at

Maksimir stadium. Although competition has been held in some preliminary soccer and fencing events, a full schedule begins Thursday with gymnastics and basketball heading the sports that day.

On Monday, the first medals were won by three Hungarians in fencing events. The gold medal in the individual foil event of men's fencing went to Zsolt Ersek. Istvan Szelei and Pal Szekeres took the bronze and silver medals respectively.

Twelve different sports are being contested over the two-week festival, which features such world sports powers as the Soviet Union and the United States as well as teams from the tiny countries of Papua, New Guinea and Tonga.

The games are in a series of multi-sport festivals which lead up to the 1988 Summer Olympics in Seoul, South Korea. The other

competitions include the Pan-Pacific and Pan-American Games this summer.

The men and women competing in the University Games in Zagreb, Yugoslavia's second-largest city, are student athletes rather than top international stars.

However, a number of future stars could have their start here. In the last University Games in Kobe, Japan, in 1985, Igor Paklin of the Soviet Union set a world high jump record which was just recently bettered.

The athlete who took the record away from Paklin was Sweden's Patrick Sjöberg, who cleared 2.42 metres (7-feet, 11-inches) in Stockholm last week.

Paklin, scheduled to be on the Soviet roster here, is ready to regain his title as the best in the world. Soviet team spokesman Mikhail Valdimirov told reporters Monday.

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ARAB HORSES AT THE ROYAL RACING CLUB

FIRST RACE 3.30 FOR BEGINNER HORSES DISTANCE 1600 METRES

Owner	Horse	Trainer	Jockey	Weight
1. Dr. Saad El Bahr	El Bahr	Owner	A. Jagheel	54.5
2. El Jabr and El Baher	Imad	Owner	A. Amarah	53
3. El Jabr and El Baher	S. El Jabr	Owner	A. Jabr	53
4. El Jabr and El Baher	El Jabr	Owner	El Jabr	51.5
5. El Jabr and El Baher	El Jabr	Owner	Sulman	50
6. El Jabr and El Baher	El Jabr	Owner	Fawaz	50
7. El Jabr and El Baher	El Jabr	Owner	Yousef	50
8. El Jabr and El Baher	El Jabr	Owner	Thameen	50
9. El Jabr and El Baher	El Jabr	Owner	Thameen	48.5

SECOND RACE 4.00 FOR THIRD CLASS HORSES DISTANCE 1600 METRES

Owner	Horse	Trainer	Jockey	Weight
1. Mishaal Dahman El Faez	El Faez	Owner	A. Jabr	58
2. Nimir El Hmoud	El Hmoud	Owner	El Hmoud	57
3. Nimir El Hmoud	El Hmoud	Owner	El Hmoud	48.5
4. Nimir El Hmoud	El Hmoud	Owner	El Hmoud	56
5. Nimir El Hmoud	El Hmoud	Owner	El Hmoud	55
6. Nimir El Hmoud	El Hmoud	Owner	El Hmoud	51.5
7. Nimir El Hmoud	El Hmoud	Owner	El Hmoud	53
8. Nimir El Hmoud	El Hmoud	Owner	El Hmoud	51.5
9. Nimir El Hmoud	El Hmoud	Owner	El Hmoud	53

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THIRD RACE 4.30 FOR BEGINNER HORSES DISTANCE 1600 METRES

Owner	Horse	Trainer	Jockey	Weight
1. El Bahr and El Baher	El Bahr	Owner	El Bahr	56
2. El Bahr and El Baher	El Bahr	Owner	El Bahr	54.5
3. El Bahr and El Baher	El Bahr	Owner	El Bahr	50
4. El Bahr and El Baher	El Bahr	Owner	El Bahr	54.5
5. El Bahr and El Baher	El Bahr	Owner	El Bahr	51.5
6. El Bahr and El Baher	El Bahr	Owner	El Bahr	50
7. El Bahr and El Baher	El Bahr	Owner	El Bahr	50
8. El Bahr and El Baher	El Bahr	Owner	El Bahr	50
9. El Bahr and El Baher	El Bahr	Owner	El Bahr	48.5

FOURTH RACE 5.00 ARAB HORSES FOR SALE DISTANCE 1000 METRES

Owner	Horse	Trainer	Jockey	Weight
1. Wasil Kamal El Bahr	El Bahr	Owner	El Bahr	56
2. Ibrahim Hish	El Hish	Owner	El Hish	56
3. Badr Hish	El Hish	Owner	El Hish	54.5
4. Amman El Din	El Din	Owner	El Din	53
5. Nimir El Hmoud	El Hmoud	Owner	El Hmoud	48.5
6. Nimir El Hmoud	El Hmoud	Owner	El Hmoud	53
7. Nimir El Hmoud	El Hmoud	Owner	El Hmoud	48.5
8. Nimir El Hmoud	El Hmoud	Owner	El Hmoud	48.5

FIFTH RACE 5.30 FOR BEGINNER HORSES DISTANCE 1000 METRES

Owner	Horse	Trainer	Jockey	Weight
1. El Bahr and El Baher	El Bahr	Owner	El Bahr	54.5
2. El Bahr and El Baher	El Bahr	Owner	El Bahr	54.5
3. El Bahr and El Baher	El Bahr	Owner	El Bahr	53
4. El Bahr and El Baher	El Bahr	Owner	El Bahr	53
5. El Bahr and El Baher	El Bahr	Owner	El Bahr	51.5
6. El Bahr and El Baher	El Bahr	Owner	El Bahr	50
7. El Bahr and El Baher	El Bahr	Owner	El Bahr	50
8. El Bahr and El Baher	El Bahr	Owner	El Bahr	50
9. El Bahr and El Baher	El Bahr	Owner	El Bahr	48.5

H.E. FAREED EL SAAD CUP SIXTH RACE 6.00 FOR THIRD CLASS HORSES DISTANCE 1400 METRES

Owner	Horse	Trainer	Jockey	Weight
1. Wasil Kamal El Bahr	El Bahr	Owner	El Bahr	60
2. Miss Najla Wasil El Bahr	El Bahr	Owner	El Bahr	48.5
3. Ibrahim Hish	El Hish	Owner	El Hish	56
4. Nimir El Hmoud	El Hmoud	Owner	El Hmoud	53
5. Nimir El Hmoud	El Hmoud	Owner	El Hmoud	53
6. Nimir El Hmoud	El Hmoud	Owner	El Hmoud	52
7. Nimir El Hmoud	El Hmoud	Owner	El Hmoud	50
8. Nimir El Hmoud	El Hmoud	Owner	El Hmoud	50

SEVENTH RACE 6.30 FOR THIRD CLASS HORSES DISTANCE 1000 METRES

Owner	Horse	Trainer	Jockey	Weight
1. Dr. A. El Naem A. Wandy	El Naem	Owner	El Naem	54.5
2. Mohammad A. El Naby	El Naby	Owner	El Naby	54.5
3. Mohammad Khalid El Faez	El Faez	Owner	El Faez	54.5
4. Mohammad Sulman Jbarat	El Jbarat	Owner	El Jbarat	53.5
5. El Jabr and El Baher	El Baher	Owner	El Baher	53
6. Ahmad Salim El Fozah	El Fozah	Owner	El Fozah	52
7. Basil Fouad Alwadih	Alwadih	Owner	Alwadih	51.5
8. Shihab Alwadih El Faez	El Faez	Owner	El Faez	50
9. Sulman Salman Khawatin	Khawatin	Owner	Khawatin	50
10. Mohammad A. El Saleem El Matai Sakir	El Matai Sakir	Owner	El Matai Sakir	50

Egypt falls short of aspirations in African soccer cup

CAIRO (R) — Egypt's hopes for a local final in the African Cup of Champions Competition were dashed Tuesday when both Cairo teams in the tournament were drawn in the same quarter-final group.

Egypt had hoped that Cairo rivals, National and Zamalek, would be drawn in different groups giving them a chance to meet in the final.

But the Egyptians now have one chance of retaining the title, won by Zamalek last year.

1988 Olympics either in Seoul or nowhere — IOC chief

LONDON (AP) — The 1988 Olympics will be held in Seoul or abandoned if the political situation makes it impossible to stage the games in the South Korean capital, the head of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) was quoted as saying Tuesday.

IOC President Juan Antonio Samaranch said in an interview with the Daily Telegraph that no alternative site to Seoul had been discussed. "Either we go to Seoul or there will be no games," Samaranch told the London-based national newspaper.

Samaranch was not at his office in the IOC headquarters in Lausanne, Michele Verdier, the IOC spokeswoman, also was out of the office and unavailable for comment.

The IOC awarded the 1988 games to Seoul in 1981 and said last month that, despite in-

creasingly violent protests against the government of President Chun Doo-Hwan, it had no plans to change the site.

Verdier said at the time that the only provision in the Olympic charter for removing the games from a city was an "act of war."

In the interview with the Daily Telegraph, Samaranch said the situation in Seoul appeared to have improved in the last week, since Chun accepted a series of opposition demands including the release of several hundred political prisoners.

"We have 15 months until the games and I am sure that by then the improvement will have taken place," the IOC chief said. "Seoul has made us no promises, but we are keeping in close contact."

Los Angeles and New York are among the cities that have offered

to host the '88 games, should Seoul be unable to do so. Samaranch, however, said no backup sites were under review.

"We have never discussed an alternative site," he said. "The games were awarded to Seoul and the games will go on in Seoul. We will not change that decision. It is Seoul or no 1988 Olympics."

Samaranch is scheduled to meet next week in Lausanne with delegations from North Korea and South Korea in the fourth set of talks over the North's demand to co-host the '88 games.

Jordan Times
Tel: 667171-4

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A fully furnished villa with large garden, 3 bedrooms, dining-sitting room, central heating, TV and video.
Location: Marj Al Hamam, Prince Hamza Housing Estate.

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Consisting of two bedrooms and salon with utilities with independent central heating, T.V., private telephone.
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Annual rent: JD 2,500

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Location: Shmeisani near the Birds Garden.

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Semi villa with two entrances containing three bedrooms, guest room, sitting room, dining room with gips and wall paper, modern kitchen, two bathrooms, garden, garage, telephone, central heating.

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The American 'ELS' intends to open an English teaching center in Amman for all levels—ELS—needs U.S., U.K. teachers who have sound experience in the field. As full or part timers, interested parties are requested to report in person with copies of their documents to fill application forms. Our contact add -

Prince Mohd St. Al Hajiri Build. fourth floor - ELS - Amman - Jordan
Tel: 624548

ANNOUNCEMENT EXTENSION OF CLOSING DATE OF TENDER NO. 56/87

Natural Resources Authority announces that closing date of Tender No. 56/87 for supply and installation of an oil gathering station in Hamza Field has been extended until July 27, 1987, 12:00 a.m. local time.

Natural Resources Authority

Cinema **CONCORD** Tel: 677430
ABOUT LAST NIGHT
Performances: 3.30, 6.00, 8.30, 10.30

Cinema **RAINBOW** Tel: 625155
CROCODILE DUNDEE
Performances: 3.15, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30

Cinema **OPERA** Tel: 675573
BIGGLES
Performances: 3.30, 6.15, 8.30, 10.30

Cinema **PLAZA** Tel: 675571
OUT OF BOUNDS
Performances: 3.30, 6.00, 8.30, 10.30

Cinema **RAGHADAN** Tel: 622198
NINJA DESTROYED
Performances: 12.15, 3.15, 5.45, 8.15

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets on Tuesday.

One Sterling	1.6300/10	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3240/50	Canadian dollar
	1.8777/87	West German marks
	2.0690/0700	Dutch guilders
	1.5320/30	Swiss francs
	38.08/13	Belgian francs
	6.1210/40	French francs
	1330/1331	Italian lira
	149.25/35	Japanese yen
	6.4000/99	Swedish crowns
	6.7175/7225	Norwegian crowns
	6.9650/9700	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	444.50/445.00	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Shares rallied and looked set to close at a record level after an easier opening in reaction to a substantial rights issue from Midland Bank. However, dealers said profit-taking saw the market slightly off its midday highs.

At 1430 GMT the FTSE 100 index was up 15.2 at 2,367.1 after opening at 2,346.5 and reaching an all-time intra-day peak of 2,374.6 at 1211 GMT. At 1400 GMT the F.T. 30 was a net 8.8 points up at 1,839.6 after an all-time peak 1,841.6 earlier.

Dealers again noted light but persistent demand from far eastern investors, but on the whole volume tended to be light. Some noted Japanese investors selling a small amount of stock.

Tuesday's feature was the long-awaited £700 million one-for-one rights issue from Midland Bank which analysts said showed the bank facing up to its problems in Latin America. Midland also said it intends to raise its bad and doubtful debt provisions to £1.19 billion and sell its Clydesdale, Northern Bank and Northern Bank (Ireland) units.

Analysts saw the subsidiary sales as a sound way of making up the deficit between the £700 million rights issue and the debt provision, with Midland standing to net around £386 million from the subsidiary sales.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, JULY 8, 1987

GENERAL TENDENCIES: You will require a change of scenery today. Expect some delays and upsets in your plans and use this time to contemplate your actions before you get in over your head.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) A situation which was not resolved in the past will reappear. Get it settled for good this time so it won't pop up again.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Patience will be needed to handle a difficult business situation. Tonight would be fine for enjoying your TV at home.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Don't complain about fulfilling a promise to a partner. Take no risks in public or while driving today.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Something interesting will come up later to add spice to your daily routine. Don't let gripes bother you.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Your mate may be in a difficult mood today, but a smile from you is all that will be required to rectify the situation.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Accept home situations as they are. Arguments could make matters worse. The time is not for having guests in.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Attending to correspondence you've ignored will bring a surprising message. Be more considerate.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Clear up the situation with your debts, and be careful about creating more. Property repairs would be wise at this point.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You may feel limited by current situations, but there are actually more opportunities than meet the eye.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Don't let your loved one upset you this morning. By the evening everything will have smoothed out well.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) An unexpected matter will develop in the evening. It could be nice, depending on how you react to it.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) A sudden change in present conditions will allow you to get rid of a credit problem. Clear up old projects.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will love to travel and will constantly crave new experiences. Your child will have to develop a philosophy that helps curb the tendency to get angry about delays. Learning many foreign languages will be easy for this child, and will be very helpful later.

Apicorp reports high profit

AL KHOBAR, Saudi Arabia (AP) — The Arab Petroleum Investment Corporation (Apicorp) registered a \$41.6 million profit last year and plans to distribute \$20 million to shareholders as dividend, the company reported Monday.

The report for 1986 said that the dividend amount was the same as that for 1985.

Apicorp, the financing agency of the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) also plans to transfer 10 per cent of the profits to the legal reserve, and the balance amount of \$17.4 million after distribution of dividends to the retained earnings, the report said.

The corporation, based in this Saudi Gulf city, is a joint company formed by OAPEC member states.

OAPEC members are Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Qatar, Bahrain, Iraq,

Syria, Algeria, Libya and Saudi Arabia. Egypt's membership has been suspended since its 1979 peace treaty with Israel.

The company's profits are a two per cent rise over 1985 which totalled \$40.7 million, the report said.

The chairman of the board of directors, Mr. Jamal Hassan Jawa, said in a statement that Apicorp's assets have grown 22.4 per cent over 1985, loan and treasury portfolios have risen sharply, while equity participation has lagged behind, "illustrating the trend of the oil industry."

During 1986, Apicorp concluded five new loans amounting to \$1.7 billion, to finance the oil and petroleum related projects in the development plans of Algeria, the UAE and Oman.

Other joint Arab projects include the Arab Geophysical Exploration Services Co., and the construction of the petroleum bulk terminal in Tunisia which

started operations last year.

The report adds that bids for the implementation of the Turkish-Arab fertiliser complex in Mersin, Turkey, have been received and appraised. The company with an initial capital of \$10 million is shared by Turkish and Arab investors and will produce 1,200 tonnes of nitric acid per day.

The construction of the 500,000-tonne per year methyl tertiary butyl ether project in Jubail, Saudi Arabia, in which Apicorp has a 10 per cent interest, is expected to commence next year, the report said.

With an authorised capital of 600 million riyals (\$160 million), it is shared by the Saudi Basic Industries Corp. (SABIC), 70 per cent, and Apicorp, Enichem Polimeri di Italy and Neste Oy of Finland owning 10 per cent each. The project is designed to enhance the octane of unleaded gasoline.

Diamond market continues to strengthen

LONDON (R) — Diamond sales, favoured by investors, remain strong helped by the weak dollar, industry and market sources said Monday.

The De Beers Consolidated Mines Ltd Central Selling Organisation (CSO) Monday reported that rough stone sales for the first half of 1987 rose 28 per cent over the 1986 figure, to reach \$1.56 billion.

"Confidence has been restored to all sectors of the industry, particularly in Israel where cutting centre activity remains strong," a De Beers spokesman told Reuters.

But he said sales growth will probably slow to more normal levels for the rest of the year.

"We're back to normal trading conditions whereas the last two years saw restocking from abnor-

mally low levels," he added.

Diamonds, like precious metals, are a favoured haven for many investors, worried that a weakening dollar or rising inflation will erode the value of their holdings.

De Beers, meanwhile, reported that demand for large, better-quality stones of more than one carat — the high-profit end of the market, which came back into fashion last year — continued to grow in the first half.

But the company declined to comment on speculation in the diamond market that prices will be increased, by perhaps five to eight per cent, in late summer or early autumn.

Prices for uncut stones were raised twice in 1986, in April and November, by seven per cent and

7.5 per cent.

Market analysts said De Beers seems to be getting a firmer grip on the diamond market by maintaining large stockpiles.

De Beers has said it allowed its inventories to fall too low during the last boom, when the price for flawless investment grade stones peaked at over \$60,000 per carat in 1980.

Subsequently, CSO sales dropped abruptly and De Beers found itself holding unprecedented quantities of surplus stock.

But by 1986, CSO sales were rising strongly once again, reaching \$2.56 billion compared with \$1.26 billion in the worst of the recession in 1982. This year's sales could reach \$2.8 or \$2.9 billion, analysts said.

Australian bank agrees to buy 3 British banks

MELBOURNE (R) — One of Australia's leading commercial banks said Tuesday it had reached agreement to acquire three British-owned banks for some \$65 million Australian dollars (\$615 million).

The National Australia Bank asked shareholders for \$432 million Australian dollars (\$396.7 million) to help buy the three from Midland Bank, a top U.K. clearing bank.

National Australia Chairman Rupert Clarke said the three, Clydesdale Bank, Northern Bank and Northern Bank (Ireland), were prestigious institutions which enjoyed excellent reputations in their home territories.

"For a long time National Australia Bank has identified the U.K. and Western Europe as a key area for further substantial expansion... and we believe that National Australia Bank will be substantially strengthened by the acquisitions," he said in a statement.

Glasgow-based Clydesdale is one of the three major banks operating in Scotland while the Belfast-based Northern Bank

operates in Northern Ireland and Northern Bank (Ireland) in the Irish Republic with its headquarters in Dublin.

To help finance the acquisitions, National Australia is offering its shareholders the right to buy one share for every five held in the bank at a price of four dollars each (\$2.84), or 1.06 dollars (75 U.S. cents) below the closing price on Australian share markets Tuesday.

The ultimate price paid for the three banks would be determined by the value of their combined net assets as at June 30 — at the end of 1986 it was \$316 million (\$305 million) — plus £70 million (\$110 million).

Analysts said the acquisitions were a good fit with National Australia's operations and they believed they were being bought without any Third World debt burden.

Midland Bank, one of Britain's four major clearing banks, Tuesday announced the measures to strengthen its balance sheet against doubtful or potentially bad debts.

U.S. firm offers to buy Fermenta

STOCKHOLM (R) — Fermenta A.B., the biotechnology group at the centre of Sweden's worst financial scandal for more than half a century, said Tuesday it had received a takeover bid from a private U.S. chemical and fertiliser firm.

The bid from Trans Resources Inc., which has the backing of the Fermenta board and its main shareholders, valued the company at 1.36 billion crowns (\$212 million).

Fermenta's bank debts are three times that sum and the deal must be approved by its creditors, remaining shareholders and the Swedish government.

If successful, the takeover would put an end to one of the most colourful sagas in the history of Swedish business.

Started in 1982 by Mr. Refaat Al Sayed, an Egyptian-born entrepreneur, as a bulk manufacturer of raw penicillin, Fermenta quickly dazzled the Swedish financial world.

It went public in 1985 and soon became the glamour stock of the Stockholm bourse.

Third World trade gap widens

WASHINGTON (AP) — The trade deficit of Third World countries tripled in 1986 as receipts from exports dropped off sharply, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) reported Monday.

Exports of 62 developing countries totalled \$480 billion and imports \$501 billion, the fund said in its monthly IMF Memorandum. The trade gap of more than \$21 billion compared with \$6 billion in 1985.

Meanwhile, trade of non-communist industrial countries continued to rise, reaching almost \$3 trillion, the fund said, while noting that much of such trade is among the Western industrial countries themselves.

The fund did not suggest a cause for the widening Third World deficit. However, Third World leaders have complained of increasing protection by the industrial countries of their own production, and a slow-down of business that reduces their need

for raw materials.

However, export sales were up in Asia which, the IMF reported, enjoyed a "banner year."

Asian exports rose to \$190 billion and imports to \$205 billion, reducing the shortfall from \$24 billion in 1985 to \$15 billion in 1986, the IMF said.

China and Hong Kong were listed as the star performers.

Hong Kong balanced its exports and imports at \$35 billion up from \$30 billion in 1985. China's exports were reported to have risen to \$31 billion from \$27 billion, but still lagged behind its imports of \$43 billion.

Thailand showed the biggest proportional increase in exports, a rise of more than 23 per cent to almost \$9 billion. Its imports

dropped to just over \$9 billion. Still, there were decreases in the value of some Asian exports. Indonesia, suffering from the drop in oil prices, saw its sales fall to \$15 billion from \$19 billion compared to imports of nearly \$11 billion.

Latin American exports fell substantially, by 14.8 per cent to \$84 billion. It was the second straight year of decline. Brazil suffered the biggest drop, to \$22 billion from more than \$25 billion. The area's two big oil producers, Mexico and Venezuela, saw their sales drop to \$22 billion from more than \$24 billion and to \$10 billion from more than \$12 billion respectively.

Import figures from Latin America were not yet complete for the year but the first three quarters indicated a fall in the area's usual surplus of sales.

Data from other Third World areas were so scanty for 1986 that the fund did not offer any trends.

U.S. offers to dismantle farm subsidies

GENEVA (AP) — The United States on Monday proposed a worldwide phasing out in the next 10 years of all agricultural subsidies affecting trade, and of agricultural export subsidies and import barriers.

In Washington, President Ronald Reagan said the initiative is "the most ambitious proposal for world agricultural trade reform ever offered."

The proposal was aimed at eliminating "the package of support being provided to producers, including measures taken at the border, that creates international trade problems," according to a text of the proposal circulated by the U.S. diplomatic mission in Geneva.

The proposal was submitted to a meeting of the agriculture committee of the multilateral trade negotiations called the Uruguay Round taking place under the auspices of the 93-nation General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

In a statement issued by the White House, President Reagan said, "the heart of our proposal is the elimination, over a 10-year period, of all export subsidies, all barriers to each other's markets (including tariffs and quotas), and all domestic subsidies that affect trade."

Agriculture Secretary Richard Lyng, outlining the U.S. administration's proposal at a Washington news briefing, said that virtually all of the United States' \$30 billion a year in farm subsidy and price-support programmes fall in this category.

The proposal also calls for a harmonisation of health and sanitary regulations, "insofar as animal, plant and human health and safety are not affected." It says domestic regulations should be based on internationally agreed standards.

The proposal says negotiations should proceed on a "two-tiered basis." First, participants would agree on how to measure levels of protection and on an overall schedule of reductions to reduce support to zero over 10 years, it says.

Second, each country should identify specific policy changes to

meet its commitment, with those changes being agreed to by the other GATT contracting parties. Implementation of policy changes would be subject to annual review by GATT, it says.

Governments could claim credit during negotiations for rolling back protectionist measures since negotiations were launched last September at a trade ministers' meeting in Uruguay, the proposal says. Conversely, countries could be charged "debts" for protectionist measures taken since the meeting, meaning they would have to roll back those measures before receiving credit for other reductions.

Policies considered to directly or indirectly subsidise agriculture include market price supports such as import quotas and variable levies, income support and other support such as fuel and fertiliser subsidies, it says.

Not included would be payments decoupled from production and marketing, such as natural disaster safety nets, and bona fide foreign and domestic aid programmes, it said.

The committee was scheduled to meet until Wednesday, with other participants also submitting proposals. The Uruguay Round is scheduled to last for four years.

U.S. trade representative, Mr. Clayton Yentzer, who joined Mr. Lyng at the Washington news briefing, agreed that the proposal might be met with considerable resistance, particularly by European nations that heavily support farm exports.

"This is a negotiation, obviously," he said. "But we're cautiously optimistic that there'll be a lot of support for this."

He indicated that a group of farm-exporting nations that have favoured an end to farm subsidies all along, led by Australia and Canada, are already "strongly in support conceptually" of the U.S. proposal.

Lack of trade-liberalising rules on farm products has been a major shortcoming of the international trading organisation, formed after World War II to seek an end to tariffs and other trade barriers, Mr. Yentzer said.

The Reagan administration sought, and won, the right to have agricultural trade considered in the current GATT talks during last September's preliminary agenda talks in Uruguay.

EC sceptical about Reagan's plan

In Brussels, the 12-nation European Community (EC), the world's largest exporter of farm products, reacted with scepticism to President Ronald Reagan's proposal to end all farm subsidies by the year 2000.

"We think this is not a realistic proposal," said Mr. Nico Wegter, a spokesman for the EC's executive commission. "Our initial reaction is that this proposal is not in accordance with the (OECD) conclusions."

At last month's meeting of the 24-nation Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) in Paris, the member governments pledged to allow market forces to play progressively greater role in their farm policies.

Mr. Wegter also said President Reagan's proposals went against the latest Uruguay Round of talks within GATT.

"There is a clear need for the reduction of supports to farmers," Mr. Wegter said in a telephone interview, "but that must be done in a balanced way and after a careful assessment of the values at stake."

The Community is in the process of reforming its own costly farm subsidies programme, which consumes more than two-thirds of its annual budget. The commission estimates the EC farm bill for 1987 will exceed 27 billion European Currency Units (ECUs) (\$31 billion).

But the commission's initial plan, designed to shave 1.2 billion ECUs (\$1.4 billion) off the bill, was rejected by the member governments as too harsh on the Community's 11 million farmers.

Instead, after more than three months of wrangling, the farm ministers agreed on a far less ambitious plan that will result in less than 150 million ECUs (\$171 million) in savings in 1987.

THE Daily Crossword by Virginia L. Yates

ACROSS

- 1 — cake
- 2 — Pook-pook
- 3 — Hostess
- 4 — Employee
- 5 — Soupe
- 6 — Gato, resort
- 7 — See it through
- 8 — "I'm a Fire"
- 9 — Where Ger. is
- 10 — Insects et al.
- 11 — Followed
- 12 — Housing option
- 13 — Summer time
- 14 — Outlines
- 15 — Malt
- 16 — Ridge
- 17 — Dress upon
- 18 — Of a poetic bone
- 19 — Staff for some
- 20 — Gem
- 21 — Pop
- 22 — Wrong
- 23 — Garibaldi's wife
- 24 — Cressed — (verb)
- 25 — Song syllable
- 26 — Dardale
- 27 — War + tree
- 28 — Airport runway
- 29 — Nations
- 30 — 81
- 31 — Semble
- 32 — Take off
- 33 — Type size
- 34 — Light
- 35 — Precipitation
- 36 — SPOE
- 37 — Members
- 38 — Color again
- 39 — Oppose
- 40 — Down
- 41 — Sound
- 42 — The Italian
- 43 — Grape (fruit)
- 44 — Argentinian fish
- 45 — Headline
- 46 — Showplace
- 47 — Summery

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